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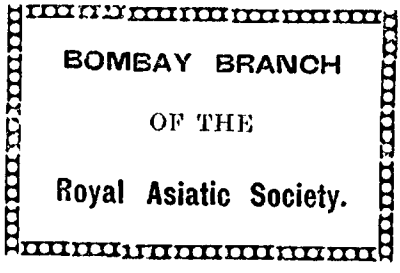

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Report on the Administration of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh

1922-1923

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ALLAHABAD:
THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS.
1924

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Report on the Administration

OF THE

United Provinces of Agra and Oudh,

1922-23.

PART I.—GENERAL SUMMARY.

Introductory note.

This general summary relates to the financial year, from April 1st, 1922 to March 31st, 1923. The departmental reports on which it is based do not all cover the same period, as some deal with the calendar year, some with the revenue year from October to September and some with the agricultural year from July to June. All information received with the object of bringing the report up to date has been used, but instead of adding supplementary chapters, it has been found more convenient to incorporate all such information in the general summary. This follows the arrangement adopted last year. Red letter paragraphs which are written once in ten years and others which give the historical development of the several departments have been omitted.

General conditions.

1. The general conditions during the year under review were much more favourable than in 1921-22. Financial stringency and political agitation were the most prominent features of 1921-22, but show a noticeable improvement in the year under review. To this gratifying feature must be added excellent crops, falling prices and the great improvement in public health. The improved political and economic outlook is a prominent feature in the revenue administration reports recently received from the districts.

Political conditions and tone of Press.

2. The rapid clearance of the political atmosphere was the most striking phenomenon of the earlier months of the year under review. The omens in the three opening months of the calendar year 1923 were anything but hopeful. February had witnessed a serious riot in Bareilly and the horrible tragedy of Chauri

Chaura. These were not isolated symptoms of unrest. There seemed little reason to hope for early improvement, much less for the great change which actually occurred. So ominous did the general outlook appear in March that a demand for funds to constitute an emergency force of auxiliary police was passed by the Legislative Council. The Local Government was able to disband this force in August. The causes which led to the collapse of the particular phase of the non-co-operation movement, which had marked the previous year, were not peculiar to the province, and need hardly be discussed in detail in this report. The movement, which depended on the maintenance of a high pitch of fictitious excitement, largely spent itself by its own fury, and reaction inevitably set in. The comparative apathy with which Mr. Gandhi's arrest was viewed was a striking index of the change which had developed. The Chauri Chaura outrage occurred in this province and probably was a greater shock, alike to moderate and extremist opinion, here than elsewhere.

By December an extremist paper summed up the position in the following pessimistic pronouncement:—"The fight has been suspended; the enthusiasm of the masses is waning, and the work so far done is being undone."

By January, 1923, the Governor in Council was able to release a number of the more prominent political prisoners. Non-co-operators had now begun to direct their enthusiasm into channels which were at least constitutional in form. In spite of more or less ingenuous disclaimers it is obvious that the impetus in this direction has since increased considerably. A concerted campaign was undertaken in the early months of 1923 to capture the municipal and district boards. This met with considerable success in the case of the municipal boards. Electoral successes in this sphere were followed by declarations that municipal work had been undertaken for the purpose of improving the administration of local self-government, and it is but fair to admit that this claim has been made good in a number of instances. The new boards have been unable to resist the temptation to dabble in politics in a manner not in itself conducive to the discharge of municipal functions, but on the whole their record is as good as that of their non-official predecessors. This development has had its natural outcome in the recent elections to the provincial and all-India legislatures, where the Congress party is now strongly represented and where they meet Government on their own ground within the terms of the reformed constitution. The organization and concentration demanded by election campaigns on a considerable scale has absorbed energies previously employed in reckless agitation whilst the fact that all sections within the non-co-operation ranks are not in agreement on this large change of policy has resulted in a diffusion of energy.

At the same time the Muhammadan attitude towards current Indian politics was greatly modified. Negotiations with Turkey promised a successful solution of outstanding difficulties with that country. This has since been realized, whilst the Turkish attitude towards the *Khilafat* has left Muhammadan agitation in this country in the air. The much-advertised truce between the two great communities came definitely to an end in these provinces with the initiation of the *Suddhi* movement. This movement was originally designed by ardent Hindus for the reclamation of certain Muhammadans in the Agra division who were alleged to have been forcibly converted to Islam in the days of Muhammadan domination. The movement provoked bitter opposition. Both movement and counter-movement spread rapidly until the struggle itself and its resulting re-actions became the chief pre-occupation of both Government and the people. Matters came to a head during the Muharram of 1923, when rioting on an extensive scale occurred in Saharanpur and Agra. There were serious incidents in many other towns and for a time the executive throughout the province had to face an uncertain situation calling for the utmost vigilance and preparedness. In the opinion of competent judges the intercommunal tension of the later months of 1923 eclipses anything that has been experienced during the present generation.

Whilst these disruptive agencies were at work, economic conditions had much improved. Good crops and falling prices restored contentment among the masses, whose interest in politics was largely a phase of economic stress. It is at the time of writing clear that the whole movement of discontent in India had entered upon a new phase since the year with which this report deals came to a close.

The tone of the Press, 1922-23.

3. There was little change in the general tone of the Press. The anti-British tone of the Extremist Press continued unabated and at times the need for direct action was openly advocated. The "Leader" of Allahabad retained its position as the most capable exponent of liberal views. As an Indian-edited journal, it is in a class by itself in this province. It dealt unsparingly with the wilder items of the non-co-operation programme and with the inconsistencies and tergiversations of its leaders. Needless to say it dealt equally faithfully with the alleged shortcomings of the Government, particularly in matters where the authorities did not see eye to eye with the champions of the liberal party. The Government is not without its supporters among the rank and file of vernacular newspapers.

On subjects like Mr. Montagu's resignation, the arrest of Mr. Gandhi, the Princes' Protection Act, the certification of the salt tax and the treatment of Indians abroad, the whole Indian Press as usual spoke with one voice. It became the fashion to condemn the speeches of Mr. Lloyd George and Earl Winterton,

The cause of Turkey was advocated with equal zeal, and the news of the conclusion of peace with that power was hailed with joy. The Anglo-Iraq treaty was received unfavourably by the Muslim Press. One paper called it "The Charter of Slavery of Iraq." There was much mutual recrimination between the Congress and the Liberal parties.

In matters of provincial interest, the District Board Bill attracted considerable attention. The chief points which provoked attack were communal representation and the provisions relating to taxation. The Act, however, in its final form was, for the most part, welcomed by the Press. The speech of His Excellency the Governor announcing the release of political prisoners and the appointment of the Retrenchment Committee was the subject of favourable comment throughout the province.

The municipal elections for a time bulked large in the Press, each party singing the praise of its own policy and candidates. The results which were in the main favourable for the non-co-operators were cited by the extremist Press as showing that the country had lost all faith in the liberals and looked to non-co-operation for relief and redress.

The tone of the Press during the current year has been much the same. The abdication of the Maharaja of Nabha and the decision on the Kenya question provoked a mass of hostile criticism tempered in regard to the former by admissions that greater publicity might have led to more restrained views. The jubilation of the extremist Press over their election successes in the United Provinces and elsewhere led, in many instances, to indulgence in intemperate personal attacks on their unsuccessful opponents.

Crime and Police Administration.

Crime statistics, 1922-23.

4. The beginning of 1922 was a period of stress for the police. The Commissioner of Gorakhpur writing shortly after the Chauri Chaura outrage remarked: "The police probably have never at any time during the last 50 years had so difficult a situation to face as was before them in the beginning of 1922." By April the position had improved. There was general recognition of the fact that things had gone too far and that the often maligned police stood between the people and active disorder. This reaction could not however by itself negative the inevitable effect of the loosening of the bonds of order. For while thefts, burglaries and cattle thefts which more or less depend upon economic conditions showed a decrease, the more violent forms of crime increased to an alarming extent. Murders and culpable homicides rose from 1,057 to 1,201, dacoities from 1,277 to 1,372, robberies from 809 to 851 and riots from 1,169 to 1,361.

The close connection between the increase in violent crime and the campaign against the established Government admits of no doubt. The increase has been progressive during the last few years and will take time to eradicate. Detailed statistics for 1923 are not yet available, but there is sufficient to show an improvement.

Petty and serious crimes with the important exception of murder show a decline. Special steps were taken to combat dacoity and several notorious gangs have been broken up. The most successful work of the year was furnished by a special police force under the leadership of an active and experienced Superintendent of Police. This force was embodied in order to deal with a dangerous gang of Bhantus under a notorious leader named Sultana. The gang had harried the western submontane districts for a series of years and their depredations had induced a feeling of dismay over a wide area. Ordinary measures had failed and a special organization was clearly demanded. The gang worked in country where dense jungle is common and where it is easy to baffle pursuit. The task involved a year of strenuous work which was brought to a successful conclusion by the arrest of the whole gang which was not otherwise disposed of. The results reflect the greatest credit on the special force and on Mr. F. Young, the Superintendent in command. Proposals for the retention of the force for dealing with similar problems in other parts of the province are under consideration and it is hoped that the practical experience gained may be brought to bear on the problem of dacoity in the province at large. The special force did not confine its energies to the Bhantus, but was employed against the Rampur-Tarai gang operating in much the same area. Of the 50 members of this gang who were sent up for trial 48 have been convicted. The success of the special force was the subject of popular recognition. Enthusiastic demonstrations of congratulation were, as the Commissioner reported, such as have seldom been seen in recent years. On one occasion the crowds which assembled to see the captured dacoits were so large that the train carrying them had to be stopped. Several towns through which the captives passed indulged in public rejoicings. The results have been as beneficial in the political as in the material sphere in the Meerut and Rohilkhand divisions.

The figures for murders are again high. The percentage of murderers who pay the final penalty is small and the deterrent results of certain punishment are difficult to secure in this class of crime. The increase in this form of crime is receiving serious attention.

The serious riots resulting from inter-communal tension have been already referred to; it is sufficient to note here that they threw a heavy burden of work and responsibility on the police.

Investigations and results.

5. There were fewer investigations as the result of recent orders making investigations optional in certain circumstances. The same reason caused a decline in reports to the police and an increase in those to Magistrates. The percentage of convictions to cases investigated slightly improved from 41·19 to 43·45.

Police administration.

6. As a result of the proposals of the provincial civil police committee the number of village chaukidars was reduced from 87,903 to 51,885. The regular police was further reduced by 5 sub-inspectors, 65 head constables and 574 constables. In spite of these reductions the total cost of the force rose from Rs. 136·87 lakhs to Rs. 138·60 lakhs. During 1923 further reductions have been made and more are under consideration. Those of a permanent nature are expected to result in a further saving of about 7 lakhs. The armed and mounted police are under reorganization. An increase in horse allowance has revived the popularity of the mounted police where recruitment was better than it has been for some years past.

The Criminal Investigation department worked under a severe handicap as the result of reduced grants by the legislature. Work increased and staff to cope with it was not available. The department has now been reorganized in accordance with a scheme worked out by the present Deputy Inspector-General and now needs only a period of freedom from vicissitude in order to develop its full value.

The Training school had another successful year. The number of students was 148, of whom all but two were successful.

The amount spent on buildings amounted to Rs. 5,35,218. Police buildings have suffered during the financial stringency and there is much leeway to make up with little immediate prospect of the necessary resources being available.

AGRARIAN PROBLEMS.

Oudh

7. There were no agrarian troubles during the year under review. An attempt was made to exploit the provisions of the new Rent Act in Oudh for party purposes during the elections for the Council and Assembly. The Liberals were the chief object of attack. Landholders claimed that they had done their best to injure their interests, whereas Swarajists pointed to their failure to secure substantial rights for the tenants. The Liberals claimed credit for all provisions benefiting the tenants and pleaded that the failure to secure larger concessions was due to the combined opposition of landlords and Government. It is too early yet to say how far the relations between landlord and tenant in Oudh have been permanently improved by the new Act. The provisions regarding 'sir' give cause for anxiety.

Agra.

8. In Agra the important revision of the present Tenancy Act is to be undertaken in the near future. The policy of the Government was summed up in a speech of His Excellency the Governor as follows: "With that aim (to maintain the stability of a great province and to promote the happiness of its people) it is our hope to proceed as soon as may be with agrarian legislation designed to remove the outstanding grievances of both landlords and tenants and to demonstrate the reality of the proposition, so often affirmed in speeches, that the interests of the landed and agricultural classes who formed the great industry upon which this province depends, are not diverse or opposed but are essentially one."

Settlement Committee.

9. The Government's policy relating to settlements has been the subject of discussion for several decades. The subject was debated in the Council on two occasions at the beginning of 1922. In the course of the discussions the Government undertook to appoint a Committee to examine the whole question with special reference to the term of future settlements and to the limitation of assessments both as regards the share taken and the enhancement allowable. Accordingly a resolution appointing a Committee under the Hon'ble Mr. M. Keane, C.I.E., I.C.S., was issued on the 12th May, 1922. The Committee which had before them a valuable note prepared by Sir Harcourt Butler, himself an experienced settlement officer, sat for 35 days. Its report with several minutes of dissent was received in January, 1923. It is difficult to summarize its recommendations here, but it may be mentioned that an extension of the term of settlement has been generally recommended. On the question of the percentage of revenue to assessments, the Committee are in general agreement with Sir Harcourt Butler's note that it may vary from 30 to 50. The Committee further recommends that the whole settlement proceedings should be open and subject to discussion in the Council. This important recommendation is summed up in the following words:—

"Its conception and birth in the forecast, its growth to maturity in the rent rate and assessment reports, its offspring in the assessment statements and its disappearance from the stage in the final report will each in turn pass in review before the public and the Council."

The report and the draft of the Land Revenue Amendment Bill which embodies the Committee's recommendation and which is appended to the report are before the Government.

AGRICULTURAL CONDITIONS.

Kharif 1922.

10. As stated in the report for 1921-22, the rainfall in the monsoon months of 1922 was excessive. The full *kharif* area could not be sown, whilst the crops failed over about 5 per cent.

of the area cropped. The outturn was also inferior except in the case of late rice and sugarcane.

Rabi 1923. 11. November was rainless, but owing to the moisture in the soil spring sowings were carried on under favourable conditions and the crops germinated well. There were light and beneficial showers in the last three weeks of December and again in the second and third weeks of January. In February nearly all the districts received good rain. The months of March and April were practically rainless. The outturn of the spring crops was excellent. The best was gram which yielded cent. per cent. of the normal. The yield of the other crops was barley 95, linseed, rapeseed and opium 90 and wheat 85.

Kharif 1923. 12. Light rains occurred in the latter half of May and June, 1923. In July the monsoon was moderately active, but generally below normal. There was good but unevenly distributed rain in August and September. While the western districts had less than normal, parts of the Rohilkhand and Lucknow divisions received over 20 inches causing considerable loss by floods in riparian areas. The monsoon withdrew about the second week of October. As a result of uneven distribution of rainfall the *kharif* crops on the whole were below the normal. Taking 100 as the normal yield the outturn of the different crops was - early rice 70, maize 85, small millet 85, indigo 75, late rice 75, juar 90, bajra 80, pulses 80, cotton 80, til 80.

Rabi 1924. 13. The rains in September were very favourable for the spring sowings. The prospects of the standing crops which were much benefited by the December rains are well above normal.

Prices. 14. The fall in prices from June, 1922 to June, 1923, and again from June to December, 1923, has been continuous. Their range is now very much the same as in 1917. According to the latest information they are:—Wheat 8·60, barley 14·00, gram 15·74 and rice 6·34 seers to the rupee.

Condition of the people. 15. The material condition of the agricultural classes was on the whole good. The fall in prices occasioned some anxiety to tenants of slender means; but the excellent harvests and the fall in the prices of general commodities were an adequate set-off. There was ample work at good wages for the agricultural labourer throughout the year. The condition of agricultural stock was fairly good. Sporadic cattle disease appeared in a number of districts, but the mortality was not high.

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT.

General. 16. Financial stringency forbade extension in the many sided activities of the agricultural department. Beyond the fact that advantage was taken of the fall in the price of agricultural machinery and that the department's normal activities were efficiently performed, there is little to record.

Agricultural education.

17. Progress in agricultural education has been well maintained during the year. The institutions at Cawnpore and Bulandshahr showed considerable development both in admissions and results. The utility of the former has been enhanced by the acquisition of 380 acres of land for purposes of practical demonstration and for instruction in estate management The question of the affiliation of these colleges to the Allahabad University is still pending.

Research.

18. On the research side useful work has been carried out in connection with particular crops. *Sugarcane.*—The Shahjahanpur Research farm has established the superiority of the canes grown on the farms and the experience gained is now being tested in other parts of the province.

The department is also making an effort to improve the Rohilkhand bel for the conversion of juice into rab or gur.

The improved Pusa wheats have become firmly established and in places have been successful in supplanting inferior indigenous varieties. Trials to find a high yielding, strong strawed, bearded wheat are in progress.

As the result of a survey of the cottons of the provinces a number of promising races have been isolated and work on these continues. The Indian Central Cotton Committee during the year made a grant of Rs. 22,000 to the province in connection with the campaign against the cotton insect pests.

The provincial Plant Pathologist is engaged on the investigation of potato rot which causes great damage to the potatoes stored for seed.

Jute, san, hemp and a number of other crops are under investigation.

Agricultural engineering.

19. As pointed out in the report for the previous year, the key to agricultural development is the improvement of water supply both as regards its extent and use. With that consideration in view, great attention has been paid to the agricultural engineering section of the department. This has been completely reorganized and decentralized into four circles each with an Assistant Agricultural Engineer. These officers offer free technical advice on all matters connected with the construction of tube wells, pumping installations and improvements in water supply in general.

New workshops have been completed and equipped during the year. This branch of the work is of great value to the land-owning classes and the annual output of work is far ahead of any other province. During the year ending 30th June last 16 tube wells were constructed with four pumping installations and 18 were in course of construction. Borings were made in 624 wells of which 457 were successful.

Cattle-breeding.

20. The two cattle-breeding farms in the Muttra and the Kheri districts continue their useful functions of supplying selected bulls for breeding purposes. Forty bulls were issued to local bodies and others during the year ending in June last. The Muttra farm specializes in the large western breeds while the Kheri farm keeps mostly the Kherigarh type. Murra buffaloes are maintained at both these farms. This section of the department also deals with the utilization of waste lands, and with grazing grounds, production and preservation of fodder and all questions connected with milk production and dairy schemes. Associated with it is a Cattle Breeding Committee of non-officials.

Gardens.

21. The Agricultural department was placed in charge of gardens during the period under review. The new arrangement centralizing all control in the hands of the Director with a Deputy Director in immediate charge has resulted in great economy and better results. A scheme for the training of Indians for the post of Garden Superintendents is now under the consideration of Government.

Forests.

Financial.

22. The financial result of the year was a net revenue of 23 lakhs, an increase of ten and a half lakhs on the previous year. The gross revenue fell by about three lakhs chiefly owing to depression in the timber trade; but it was more than compensated for by a curtailment of 13 lakhs in expenditure. The timber market particularly in chir and deodar continues depressed and prospects at the moment do not promise improvement.

Afforestation.

23. The afforestation division slowly but steadily continues the work of converting barren ravine land on the banks of the Jumna into flourishing plantations of babul, sisso, siris and khair. Progress has been slow owing to lack of funds, but local landholders are impressed by the success already achieved. This is satisfactory since it is on their capital and enterprise that the success of the campaign against erosion must eventually depend.

As regards the Utilization circle the Government policy and the criticisms evoked were fully described in the report for 1922-23. To meet existing difficulties, chiefly financial, several changes were made during the year. The Wood Working Institute was made over to the Industries department to whom it originally belonged whilst the saw mill and turnery, and the resin factory were transferred to a syndicate who will run them as companies in which the Government will retain a large share. In view of the fact that there is a large market for the outturn, these factories have great possibilities and, if they succeed, will further the economic development of the country and justify the expenditure incurred on them. The companies have not yet been floated.

Kumaun Grievances Committee.

24. The recommendations of the Committee appointed to consider Kumaun grievances have been carried out. It was recognized that the damage caused in the forests though due to agitation and unrest would not have occurred on so large a scale had there been no sense of grievance.

General.

25. Schemes for light tramways which will reduce the cost of transport have been prepared and will, it is hoped, be financed next year. A tramway in the Motichor Valley and a wet slide for sleeper extraction in Chakrata were constructed during the year. Construction and maintenance of roads and buildings cost approximately five lakhs of rupees. The latter included 18 new rest houses provided to meet the difficulty created by the abolition of utar in Kumaun. The number of offences against the forest laws rose from 4,100 to 4,286; but it is satisfactory to note that cases of fire were much below the average. The new Forest Advisory Board met several times during the year and gave valuable advice on important administrative questions.

Co-operative Societies.

26. The co-operative department continued to follow the policy of caution in registering new societies and attention was mainly concentrated on consolidation. Gradual and orderly development was preferred to the multiplication of societies and no expansion was allowed in localities where arrangements for proper financing and supervision could not be ensured. Notwithstanding this, 3 central banks, 436 agricultural and 28 non-agricultural societies were registered during the year.

The working capital of central societies increased by 6·18 lakhs to 76·82 lakhs. This increase was general under all heads constituting working capital. Transactions between central banks were reduced, indicating their growing independence and ability to raise capital for their own requirements locally. All the central banks were required to keep adequate fluid resources to meet maturing liabilities and those that had insufficient resources were not allowed to organize new societies. It is, however, regrettable that the arrears of loans against working societies increased from 18·7 to 20·7 per cent. The department is constantly pressing upon the banks the need of teaching the societies and their members the importance of punctuality in the repayment of loans. The financial position of the banks with heavy arrears was fully discussed with the directors and every effort was made to impress upon them the seriousness of their position. The four non-credit central societies have no great achievements to show. Only one can be said to have worked fairly successfully. The other three are still feeling their way.

As regards primary societies there was considerable increase both in membership and working capital. The result of the classification of societies at audit shows that the education of the members and the general condition of the societies are progressing satisfactorily. Non-agricultural credit societies of limited liability maintained their progress as a class.

Non-credit societies, however, both agricultural and non-agricultural, have shown no improvement. Stores suffered from lack of interest on the part of members and from market fluctuations and several had to be closed. The management of this class of society as compared with credit societies needs much closer attention and makes a larger call on the active interest and the business capacity of the members. It has been found that members, generally speaking, are either unwilling or incapable of making sustained efforts to manage the joint business of a society.

The Standing Committee of Co-operators met twice and did useful work.

Industrial development.

General.

27. The report for 1921-22 gave the history of industrial development in these provinces from the beginning of this century. The industrial activities of the Government were also described in detail. The year under review was one of quiet rather than ostentatious work. If there were no startling achievements with which to refute the criticism that the provincial industrial departments accomplish little to promote industrial development, there was plenty of useful unobtrusive work. The department of industries like all other branches of the administration, was handicapped by the financial stringency, but it was more instrumental than most in giving positive help in relieving the provincial revenues. The Stores Purchase department placed orders of the value of Rs. 10,58,048, with an estimated saving of Rs. 1,66,765. The saving is all the more valuable as it was accomplished merely by co-ordination of the wants of different departments without any lessening of efficiency.

The industrial survey started some two years ago has been completed and the reports have been appreciated by the public. The department has been in close touch with the leaders of commerce and industry in the province, and the friendly relations existing between them are a happy augury for its future activities.

Applications for loans to finance industrial undertakings were numerous, and in all a sum of Rs. 1,00,000 was advanced on the recommendation of the new Board of Industrial Loan Commissioners. Smaller industrial schemes were financed to the extent of Rs. 15,000 by the Board of Industries.

On the educational side fresh recurring grants of Rs. 12,615 were made to private technical schools. There is reason to suppose that the progress made in technical education has been satisfactory if slow: but unfortunately the material on which these schools have to work is poor, and the right type of candidate rarely appears.

The Industrial position and outlook.

28. The leading manufacture of the province is cotton: and in spite of the dumping of Japanese goods it held its own and even expanded during the year. Silk, which is mainly a home industry, prospered exceedingly, and much the same can be said of sugar, which however was handicapped by constant and wide fluctuations in price. On the other hand, the hide and skin market was dull and the export trade again failed to find an outlet into the overstocked foreign market. The glass industry experienced a spell of almost unparalleled depression: German and Japanese goods swamped the market, and there are no signs yet of a brighter outlook. It may, however, be claimed that the general industrial situation is not unpromising. Many handicaps still exist and the province has not yet recovered from the disturbing influences of the last few years, but existing industries are digging themselves in and offering stronger opposition to foreign competition. New ventures are tentatively appearing, and the vast industrial resources of the province offer opportunities which are gradually being grasped. Progress is, and will be, slow, but perhaps it will be the sounder for that: the opportunities offered by the technical schools, the Board of Loan Commissioners and even by the Stores Purchase department are wide, and it only lies with the youth of the country to embrace them.

EDUCATION.

General.

29. The expansion of education is mainly a matter of money, and consequently the Education department could do little but maintain its existing position and expand slowly on established lines. All things considered, the result was satisfactory. The number of schools increased by nearly 200, the number of scholars by over 50,000 and the provincial expenditure by nearly nine lakhs and three-quarters.

Compulsory education was introduced in eight of the municipalities during the year and it has been extended to four more during the current year. A scheme for a course in Hygiene, Sanitation and First Aid was drawn up and introduced in 16 Anglo-Vernacular schools in Allahabad, Lucknow and Rohilkhand divisions. Results in this restricted area were so encouraging that the scheme has now been extended to all divisions of the province, and over 1,400 students are now taking the course. The question of the medical inspection of students has been engaging the attention of the authorities for several years. A system

was introduced in 1919 but proved unsatisfactory. A new scheme has been framed but it cannot be adopted at present owing to the heavy expenditure involved, and pending an improvement in the financial situation the rules framed in 1919 have been revised so as to make the best possible use of the resources available.

The Seva Samiti Scouts and the United Provinces Boy Scouts continue to do good work.

University Education.

30. In the sphere of higher education the chief features were the establishment of the Board of High Schools and Intermediate Examination and the re-constitution of the Allahabad University. The functions of the new Board and the dual character of the Allahabad University were described in the report for 1921-22. The only new point about the teaching branch of the University is the aim to secure for every student in addition to his lectures a regular and proportional amount of supplementary instruction.

The new Lucknow University has shown great activity. The study of vernacular languages has been given a prominent place in its programme; Extension lectures have been organized, and the Oxford Union has been taken as a model for a Lucknow University Union. A Sociological Association has been formed for the study of social and economic questions.

Consequent on the passing of the Allahabad University and the High School and Intermediate Education Acts the number of Art Colleges has been reduced by nearly half. The future of outlying colleges is uncertain. Their condition generally is not satisfactory and greater efforts are undoubtedly needed on the part of those directly interested in maintaining them.

The question of establishing another university at Agra is being raised again: it remains to be seen whether the new council will endorse the decision of its predecessor.

Secondary Education.

31. One of the most important results of the recommendations of the Sadler Committee has been the establishment of Intermediate Colleges. The number now amounts to 23 with an enrolment of over 2,500 students. The ambition of almost every flourishing High School is to be raised to the status of an Intermediate College. But it is useless to gloss over the difficulties. Initial expenditure is high with the present cost of building, and the teaching staff must be both larger and better paid. Apart from these financial difficulties the tendency of Principals to devote most of their attention to the senior classes, at the expense of the middle and lower sections, is one which it is difficult, but necessary, to avoid; and if only for this reason progress must be cautious.

The enrolment of High Schools showed a further increase of 2,000 and many new buildings were completed. Apathy

however continues to be the leading characteristic of those members of the public appointed on School Committees. Local members of the Legislative Council have been made *ex-officio* members of these committees : but unfortunately the consuming zeal for education—in the abstract—which they display in the Legislature is not usually as prominent in their dealings with the brick and mortar schools of their own constituencies.

Primary education.

32. Primary education showed further advance during the year under review. The expenditure rose by about 2½ lakhs, the number of schools by over 400 and the number of scholars by over 44,000. As noted above, there are 12 municipalities where primary education is now compulsory.

Two great difficulties have hitherto obstructed the progress of primary education. One of them, the lack of suitable teachers, has to a great extent been met. In some districts the supply of trained teachers overtook the demand and a number of training classes were consequently closed. The other is the lack of suitable buildings, and in this the situation shows no improvement. If anything, there is a change for the worse: the rains of past years have been unusually heavy, and buildings, often composed of mud, have been unable to stand the strain. Nor can the municipalities and district boards, which have difficulty enough in meeting ordinary expenditure, be expected to make good the deficiencies, and the solution of this problem is not yet in sight. Complaints of stagnation in lower classes A and B still continue. It is here that the average primary school teacher generally fails. Here however there is more hope. The present rates of teachers' pay are generally agreed to be sufficient and it is hoped that the better class of teachers, which these rates are likely to attract, may be able to effect some improvement. A committee was appointed by Government to examine the question of training vernacular teachers and its report has received the approval of Government.

Miscellaneous.

33. The grants for female education and for special educational facilities for Muhammadans and the depressed classes were all increased during the year. In addition to the ordinary provision for the education of the children of soldiers killed or incapacitated during the war, another scheme has been introduced for giving educational scholarships to the children of Indian soldiers of all ranks who were on the active list between the 4th August, 1914 and 11th November, 1918. This has been financed by the grant of Rs. 48,000 placed at the disposal of the Government by the Imperial Indian Relief Fund Committee.

Two scholarships of the value of £ 290 per annum each, one for the study of Western methods of education and the other for the study of Zoology, were awarded during the year under review.

Administration.

34. During the year an important administrative change was carried out and the educational section of the Secretariat has been amalgamated with the office of the Director of Public Instruction. This officer now includes among his duties those of a Deputy Secretary to Government. The change is expected to lead both to economy and to greater expedition in the disposal of work.

Excise.

35. The outstanding feature of the year is a further decrease in the sales of almost all commodities, and a consequent fall in the revenue. Of the total decrease of 14·24 lakhs in revenue, country spirit alone was responsible for 13·22, caused by a decrease of over 100,000 L. P. gallons in consumption. For the decline of consumption various reasons have been advanced. The fall in prices generally was not large enough to leave the industrial worker much margin for luxuries, while from the agricultural classes it took away almost as much as it gave. The rise in duty, the abolition of many shops and the restrictions on the hours of sale had all a sensible and direct effect. Social propaganda worked to some effect to curtail the consumption at marriages and other festivals, and the *Shuddhi* movement indirectly contributed to the same result. The loss of revenue may be viewed with some regret, but the decrease in consumption, which is again noticeable in the last nine months of 1923, is a matter for unmixed satisfaction, especially as it was not caused this year, as it was last year to some extent, by violence and intimidation, and was not accompanied by a corresponding increase in the consumption of cocaine and the more noxious drugs.

The year marks the transition stage from the auction to the surcharge system of licensing of shops for the sale of country spirits, opium and hemp drugs. The new system simply substitutes a calculated, exact and non-speculative scale of surcharges graduated according to sales for that formerly fixed by the rough and tumble of the auction room. The object of the system is to place the vendor in a position in which he can earn a living by honest trading and to secure to the State its full share of the profit on the spirit consumed. From the financial point of view it is perhaps unfortunate that the new system was introduced at a time when the consumption was steadily falling. An increase of the surcharge scale is under consideration, but it may be accepted that this alone will not lead to any considerable increase in revenue.

Licensing Boards and Advisory Committees.

36. The newly constituted Licensing Boards met for the first time and made the settlements for the current year. Not all of them followed the rules of procedure correctly, nor were their decisions in all cases received without protest: but in

general their proposals were accepted. There is considerable ground for optimism that as the experience of the boards ripens their services will be appreciated both by the Government and the public. Advisory Committees in districts and in municipalities where licensing boards had not been constituted also met and submitted their proposals to district officers: and 123 of their recommendations for the closure of shops were accepted out of 146. A new rule provides that where a district officer does not accept a committee's proposals a reference to Government is necessary. It is hoped that this will supply a new incentive to interest in the work.

FINANCE.

37. The year 1922-23 had very much the same financial features as the previous year, namely a fall in income and a rise in expenditure. The causes were given in detail in the last report.

The budget anticipated receipts to the extent of 1436·50 lakhs and expenditure to the extent of 1543·05, leaving a deficit of 106·55. Receipts, however, were short by 72·59, but the resulting deficit was to a certain extent counterbalanced by a decrease of 15·84 lakhs in expenditure. The net result was a deficit on the year's working of 163·22 lakhs. Various measures of economy and retrenchment were introduced during the current year and three taxation measures were passed to balance the budget, and to meet a part of this deficit. In spite of these endeavours the revised budget for the current year discloses a further fall of 16 lakhs in income, the chief losses occurring under Stamps and Excise. The fall in income has partly been made up by a saving of 11 lakhs effected in expenditure. As a result of further cuts in expenditure that may be made on the recommendations of the Economy Committee the financial position will gradually improve. But equilibrium may not be possible without further development of available sources of revenue.

Public Works Department—BUILDINGS AND ROADS.

General. 38. The recommendations of the Committee appointed to consider the lines on which the department was to be reorganized were detailed in the report for the year 1921-22. These recommendations involved material changes in constitution and procedure and are still under the consideration of Government. In the meantime the department has been relieved of the responsibility for the maintenance of all buildings belonging to the Central Government (excluding such residential buildings for which capital and revenue accounts are kept). The execution of petty original works has also been transferred. Arrangements were made for similar action with regard to provincial buildings with effect from April, 1923. Several administrative changes were

carried out during the year. Bulandshahr was separated from Meerut and Unao and Etawah from Cawnpore. On the other hand Bahraich was joined to Gonda and Sultanpur to Partabgarh. A temporary construction sub-division was also created at Cawnpore.

Works. 39. The total expenditure of the department amounted to Rs. 25·47 lakhs. The most important building under construction is the Council Chamber at Lucknow, the foundation stone of which was laid by Sir Harcourt Butler, G.C.I.E., K.C.S.I., on the 15th December, 1922. But this work which is to cost over 24 lakhs is carried out independently of the Public Works department and is under the direct supervision of the architect, Mr. Lanchester. A sum of Rs. 4¾ lakhs was spent on educational buildings during the year. Among those that were completed may be mentioned the Intermediate College and Normal School at Jhansi, the Normal School at Muzaffarnagar and the High School at Banda, besides several hostels and additions to present buildings. The expenditure on communications amounted to nearly 37 lakhs. Fair progress was made on the raising and metalling of the Cawnpore-Etawah road and on the road from Kolukhet to Bhatta on the Dehra Dun-Mussoorie cart road. Two new bridges were completed and two more taken in hand. The metalling of the Gonda-Bahraich road was continued. The Public Health department spent Rs. 28·68 lakhs on original works and 15·97 lakhs on open water-works. Excellent progress was made on the Naini Tal Hydro-Electric and Water Supply scheme and current was first supplied to the public on 8th August, 1922. The supply has remained uninterrupted.

IRRIGATION.

Financial. 40. The rainfall was timely and copious with the result that rabi sowings were mostly completed without the aid of canal water. The gross receipts accordingly fell from 145·58 to 136·87 lakhs. The working expenses rose by about seventy thousand.

Works. 41. The total expenditure direct and indirect chargeable to capital amounted to Rs. 63·62 lakhs or Rs. 10·52 lakhs above the figure for the previous year. Of this a sum of Rs. 57 lakhs was spent on the Sarda canal. Having regard to the difficulties of the work and the unhealthiness of the country in which it was carried on, the results achieved reflect great credit on the department.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

Criminal Justice. 42. Unlike its predecessor, 1922, brought heavy work to Criminal Courts both in Agra and Oudh. Much of the increase in crime must be ascribed to the political conditions: political

agitators touring the country and preaching against Government in every district are bound, whether they wish it or not, to induce a spirit of lawlessness which is reflected in the criminal returns of the year. The "National panchayats" formed by non-co-operators died out after a brief and inglorious existence and no longer afforded relief to the regular courts. Economic factors were as usual responsible for some of the crime: excessive rains had damaged the crops and caused flooding in many parts, and thus supplied the temptation to turn to crime as a substitute for agriculture. In spite of the volume of work, the disposal of cases was satisfactory, but the average duration rose slightly both in Agra and Oudh. The High Court and the Judicial Commissioner have both pointed out the urgent necessity of increasing the establishment, but the financial stringency has hampered any effort in this direction. Both these courts again have commented on the insufficient use of sentences of whipping, and the High Court has drawn attention to the neglect of section 250, Criminal Procedure Code. An interesting suggestion made by the High Court concerns the duplication of work involved by the necessity of committing to sessions persons with previous convictions against them for the purpose of enhanced punishment. The offence with which they are charged may be simple theft or burglary but in most cases they have to be committed to sessions and tried again there. To obviate this a suggestion is made that selected Magistrates should be empowered to give sentences of 5 or 7 years' imprisonment or that such cases may only be referred to Sessions Courts for enhanced punishment without the necessity of a complete retrial.

Honorary Magistrates continued to relieve the regular courts of a great volume of work. Their merits are uneven, and irregularities of procedure are not few: but on the whole their work is surprisingly satisfactory.

Civil Justice.

43. Civil litigation increased throughout the province, and the increase was distributed over courts of all grades. All districts in the province shared in it except Shahjahanpur and Budaun in Agra and Sitapur in Oudh. The fall in the price of foodstuffs and other necessaries of life brought greater prosperity to those classes mainly addicted to civil litigation and was probably responsible for most of the increase.

With regard to congestion of work, it follows naturally that there was little change for the better in the state of the courts, and in the courts of District Judges the congestion was even worse than it had been at the end of 1921. Since the close of the present year some much needed relief has been given by the temporary creation of 3 extra subordinate judges and 5 munsifs. In Oudh the establishment of a Chief Court has been

sanctioned by the Secretary of State, and much is hoped from it: but financial difficulties have yet to be surmounted. The same difficulty among others delays the separation of the judicial and the executive. The principle has been accepted by the Government, but the cost is at present prohibitive.

Public Health.

Births and deaths.

44. The year was exceptionally healthy. The birth-rate, it is true, fell to 32·17 per mille, thus continuing the decline of previous years. The death-rate however also fell from 39·57 to 25·01. Deaths from cholera and the vague "fever" were noticeably fewer, but all the main diseases shared in the gratifying decrease. Gonda amongst the districts and Lakhimpur among the municipalities recorded the lowest death-rates, thus belying their popular reputation. Infant mortality fell from 236·5 to 183·8, "fever" as usual taking the greatest toll. Cawnpore city again heads the list with an unenviable figure of 450·87, congestion coupled with ignorance is responsible for this appalling figure: the latter it may be possible to dispel: for the former there appears no remedy at present.

Measures taken.

45. Of the preventive measures taken during the year, the first to be mentioned is the campaign against malaria. Considering all its evils, direct and indirect, the disease is deservedly ranked as the most formidable obstacle to the progress of the provinces. The disease is preventible, but the success of a vast campaign of the kind required largely depends on public finances and public co-operation. Neither of these two essentials is available at present. Meanwhile the Public Health department has been doing all it can to mitigate the evils of the disease. Most successful work was done at Banbassa, where the labourers on the headworks of the Sarda canal were protected against infection with the result that work was carried on till June. In former years all work had to be stopped in April or May. Apart from the saving of health and life, the result represents in hard cash a gain which far outweighs the cost of the anti-malarial establishment.

The high figure of infant mortality naturally forces on the attention the measures taken to combat it. The improvement of indigenous dais is a first necessity, and Meerut, Agra and Lucknow have been established as centres for a comprehensive system of training. There is a resident midwife at each centre who attends cases, free of charge, to instruct and assist the dais in their work. The dais on their part are encouraged, by payment, to seek the advice and help of these resident midwives. A maternity supervisor visits the centres, holds classes for dais and visits homes giving advice to mothers and dais. The work is carried on with a grant of Rs. 10,000 per

annum from Government and Rs. 6,430 from the central committee of the Victoria Memorial Scholarship Fund. There is another scheme for the training of a superior class of midwives at Aligarh, Bareilly, Moradabad, Bulandshahr, Lucknow, Cawnpore, Allahabad, Fyzabad, Meerut and Ghazipur. Probationers are given scholarships of Rs. 12 per month with quarters and uniform allowances. A provincial branch of the Lady Chelmsford Maternity and Child Welfare League was established during the year, and arrangements for the collection of funds are in progress. When sufficient funds have been collected, steps will be taken to establish a child welfare centre at some suitable place. Meanwhile two independent schemes, one started by Mrs. Hallowes and the other by Mrs. Stubbs, have been doing very useful work at Pilibhit and Bareilly. The collections at the latter place amounted to Rs. 16,500 and the Government contributed another Rs. 2,000 for the working of the scheme.

A District Health scheme was launched in June, 1922, in Gorakhpur and Basti districts particularly liable to epidemic diseases. It provides for the appointment of a District and Assistant Medical Officer of Health in each district and of one sanitary inspector in each tahsil. This is the first systematic attempt to grapple with the problem of the preservation of public health in rural areas. The scheme is admittedly in an experimental stage, but the results achieved are sufficiently encouraging to warrant a further advance: and since April, 1923, Azamgarh has also been included in the scheme.

The Hygiene Publicity Bureau continued its valuable campaign. Its object is to dispel popular ignorance of the causation of disease and of the elements of hygiene and thus to remove one of the great contributory causes of disease in the province.

Among other measures carried out may be mentioned the better staffing and equipment of travelling dispensaries. Considerable attention was paid to the prevention of adulteration of food and drugs. A large number of samples were sent for analysis and 39 persons were found guilty of adulteration and fined. One practical difficulty, however, is that samples get damaged in transit. It has also been found useless to apply the provisions of the Act to towns where there are no Medical Officers of Health.

The Board of Public Health sanctioned grants amounting to Rs. 13,54,134. The larger part of the sum was necessarily spent on water-supply, drainage and sewerage projects. But the interests of the rural population, and the lower castes especially were not neglected.

1923. 46. The full figures for 1923 are not available. But from those that are it is clear that the public health in these provinces has further improved. There were more deaths from cholera and plague, but those from fever and other causes show such a large decrease that the death rate on the whole is expected to be under 23 as compared with over 25 per mille during 1922. Infant mortality has fallen to 172 per mille, which is the lowest rate recorded since 1891. The births during the current year exceed those in the previous year by about half a lakh.

Local Self-Government.

District Boards. 47. The history of the district boards and the stages which marked their development resulting in the passage of the new District Boards Act were described in detail in the report for 1921-22. The year under review was the last year of the old boards' existence. During their long career the chief criticisms, frequently emphasized, were the unrepresentative character of the boards and the lack of interest in work on the part of members. The natural result was that the work in reality was done by the official Chairman and his subordinates. The force of these criticisms can hardly be denied, but with all that the achievements of the old district boards in all departments under their control were immense. Education, medical relief, sanitation, and communications all improved during this period, and although the initiative generally came from the district officers, a great deal depended upon the hearty co-operation of non-official members. The relations between officials and non-officials were generally cordial and made possible the employment of Provincial and Subordinate Service officers as full time District Board Secretaries. The new boards are entering upon their duties under serious financial difficulties. The services, educational, medical, and others, have all become more costly than before; the demand for more schools, more hospitals, more sanitary improvements in rural areas and better communications is pressing; the cost of material and labour has gone up. As against all this the only real hope which the boards have of increasing their income lies in Government grants or the enhancement of cesses on the resettlement of districts. The new Act has conferred powers of taxation, but from the strong opposition which the taxation clauses of the Act met with in the Legislative Council it can be inferred that the new boards will not be at all willing to impose any new tax. The only alternative is further retrenchment in expenditure which will certainly effect the well-being of the public in general. The new boards however only came into existence in April, 1923, and it would not be fair to anticipate or to prophesy. At present, it must be confessed, political feeling plays too prominent a part in their decisions: but they have yet to find their feet, and it must at least be said that the zeal with

which the new members have entered on their duties is in refreshing contrast to the apathy too often displayed by the members of the old boards.

Municipal boards.

48. Municipalities are in much the same position as last year. Their total income rose by over 15 lakhs, but even so it was short of the expenditure by over 12½ lakhs. A number of municipalities are indebted and in some of them the financial position was so serious that a Special Officer had to be deputed to enquire and report about them. The main problem of course is taxation. In some boards the income from the toll and terminal tax is still lower than the receipts from octroi for which it was substituted. The tax on circumstances and property is increasingly unpopular. Recurring expenditure is rising and the rise in collection charges is out of all proportion to the increase in the amount collected. Water-supply and drainage schemes in the bigger municipalities and repairs to roads everywhere require large sums of money which the boards find it difficult to provide.

The boards have all undergone a remarkable change in their membership. The elections in 1923 were keenly contested and resulted in the return of a large number of young men professing advanced political views. Allahabad distinguished itself by returning the first lady member. The new members can be credited with a keen desire to serve their fellow countrymen but most of them are inexperienced, and they are faced with a difficult situation. A rigorous policy of economy will have to be adopted, followed if necessary by fearless taxation. Both courses to be effective are sure to be unpopular. In the case of taxation this is obvious: in the case of economy the difficulty will be to concentrate on the right heads of expenditure and not to yield to the clamour of those who, for instance, regard all sanitary expenditure as superfluous but fight stoutly against any reduction in the cost of administration. The new members generally have entered on their duties with zeal and a full sense of responsibility: and while it is too soon to be optimistic in view of the heavy task before them, there is certainly no occasion for pessimism.

Village panchayats.

49. The village panchayats have had another year of life. Of the reports received about their working the majority are encouraging. The work both in outturn and quality deserves credit, and complaints have been few. The movement is still in its infancy and has to be carefully watched, and district officers are alive to the necessity of weeding out panchayats which for some reason or other have been found wanting. When this has been done it will be easier to say how far the experiment has justified itself. For the moment district officers are only prepared to say that the movement is promising, and this cautious verdict may be accepted.

Legislative Council.

Legislation.

50. The work of the reformed Legislative Council during the first two years of its existence was described in the report of 1921-22. The Council has since completed the third year of its term, and the recent elections have considerably altered its complexion.

The most important legislation of the year was designed to enable the province to balance its budget. With this object in view, bills for the enhancement of court fees and stamp duties and for the imposition of a tax on motor vehicles were introduced. It was recognized that a Council which had shortly to solicit the suffrages of its constituents would be chary of passing fresh taxation, and there was the added difficulty that a previous motion to introduce a court fees amendment bill had been rejected at the outset. In spite of these difficulties all three bills were eventually passed, though not without drastic amendments. Even so, it was only possible to secure the assent of the Council to their enforcement for a single year. The opposition in all cases urged that the possibilities of retrenchment had not been fully explored, and that this task should be completed before fresh taxation was considered. To meet the arguments with regard to retrenchment it was decided to appoint a Retrenchment Committee under the presidency of Mr. S. H. Fremantle.

Other legislation during the year consisted of the United Provinces Excise Amendment Act and the United Provinces Land Revenue Amendment Act.

Resolutions were numerous, the most important perhaps being successful motions asking for the establishment of a Chief Court for Oudh, the establishment of an affiliating University at Agra, and for the grant of the franchise to women. The first met with some opposition from the members of the Agra Province, mainly on the ground that the extra expense was not justified in existing circumstances. The resolution about the Agra University was carried in the teeth of opposition from the then Minister of Education, since it cut directly across his educational policy as already accepted by the Council and underlying the recent Allahabad University Act. The Minister informed the Council at once that their recommendation would not be carried out. The matter is now somewhat out of date, as a similar resolution has since been accepted by the new Council and the present Minister has agreed to the appointment of a committee to examine the whole question. The grant of the franchise to women was carried without opposition.

The closing stages of the first Council's labours were marked by the defeat of a resolution which proposed provincial abstention from participation in the British Empire Exhibition.

The first reformed Council can look back with pride on a record of useful work. Its business was conducted with dignity and growing responsibility, and the foundations of sound traditions were laid. The House took its tone from the solid block of responsible landholders who formed the majority of elected members. It contained a smaller but compact block of alert and capable liberals who, so far as the reserved side of the Government was concerned, furnished the opposition – a somewhat curious anomaly considering that that the Ministers who held office till May, 1923, were both drawn from the liberal ranks. In the new Council the Swarajists have replaced the liberals. The landholders are again in the majority and only require cohesion to enable them once more to dominate the counsels of the province.

PART II.—DEPARTMENTAL CHAPTERS.

CHAPTER I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

1.—Physical features, area, climate and chief staples.

(*See pages* 1 *to* 11 *of the report for* 1921-22.)

2.—Political.

(For details see the Annual Reports on the Administration of the Rampur, Tehri and Benares State.)

RAMPUR.

Revenue administration.

1. The income from all heads during the year 1921-22 amounted to Rs. 91·43 lakhs as against Rs. 97·86 lakhs in the previous year; expenditure to Rs. 55·26 lakhs as against Rs. 67·19 lakhs. The income from land revenue amounted to Rs. 36·08 lakhs as against Rs. 36·01 lakhs in the year previous. The cultivated area fell from 356,453 acres to 352,599 acres and the canal revenue was short by nearly Rs. 31,000. The net increase of over Rs. 7,000 in land revenue was due to 127 villages having been again leased out on a higher revenue.

General.

2. The State was visited by His Excellency Sir Harcourt Butler in October, 1922, and by His Excellency Sir William Marris on 16th January, 1923. Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Countess of Reading paid a visit on 3rd February, 1923. His Highness the Nawab came to Lucknow twice during the month of December : once to bid farewell to Sir Harcourt Butler and again to welcome His Excellency Sir William Marris. On 25th February His Highness paid a visit to Delhi and stayed at the Viceregal Lodge as the guest of Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Reading. Among other donations Rs. 25,000 was given to the Tibbia College at Delhi and one lakh of rupees to the Technological Institute founded to commemorate His Excellency Sir Harcourt Butler's valuable services to these provinces. The State invested two lakhs of rupees in the 6 per cent. United Provinces Promissory notes.

Agriculture.

3. The monsoon of 1921 was fairly good and the crops satisfactory, except in places where the rains were excessive.

The winter rains were irregular and scanty, and the outturn of *rabi* was not as good as was estimated in the beginning. The rains of the monsoon of 1922 were heavy and did not allow agricultural operations to be carried out to their full extent. In places the floods caused loss to the standing crops.

Condition of people.

4. There was no alteration in the condition of the people. Prices were high, but so were wages both in the city and mufassil.

Excise.

5. The total consumption of country liquor fell from 22,357 to 19,492 gallons and the demand for theyear fell from Rs. 1,40,553 to Rs. 1,26,277. The demand for the year under the head of opium fell from Rs. 33,294 to Rs. 16,273, which is again attributed to the rise in the issue price of opium and the high rates of food grain. The consumption of *charas* rose by 26 seers. The demand however fell by Rs. 719. The number of shops for the sale of liquor (55), opium and drugs (30) remained the same as in the previous year.

Police.

6. The total number of crimes reported during the year was 626 against 771 last year, showing a decrease of 145. Excluding cases of murder and attempt to murder, which went up from 8 to 10, all forms of serious crime such as dacoity, robbery, hurt, burglary, theft and cattle theft have contributed to the total decrease.

Medical.

7. No epidemic was reported during the year. The general health of the people was good, the death-rate falling from 302·8 to 211·3 per ten thousand. The birth-rate, however, was 139·8 as against 183·5 last year.

Education.

8. The number of schools fell from 121 to 117, and the number of scholars from 4,832 to 4,175. The number of scholars in the high school again showed an increase, and there was a slight increase in the number of scholars in the Madrasa-i-Alia. The number of passes in the examination was 4 out of 11 at the former and 16 out of 31 at the latter. The State also maintained a patwari school under the management of the Revenue department. The enrolment during the year was 99.

Tehri.

9. The rainfall during the year 1922-23 was uneven, but on the whole sufficient for an average crop. The distribution of *takavi*, therefore, amounted to only Rs. 13,000 as against nearly 2·40 lakhs in the previous year. Out of the balance of six lakhs over Rs. 34,000 were realized.

The ordinary revenue of the year fell from 14·91 lakhs to 12·52 lakhs, the reason for the decrease being that a great portion of the Forest revenue could not be realized and credited into the treasury before the accounts for the year were closed. The expenditure for the year rose from 14·39 to 14·61 lakhs, reducing the surplus in hand from 20·03 to 19·62 lakhs. The

State continues to be free from all encumbrances and liabilities, and has over 9 lakhs to its credit on account of *takavi* and other loans. The number of primary schools increased from 50 to 52 and the enrolment from 2,455 to 2,479. The enrolment at the middle vernacular schools remained much the same.

The extension of village *panchayats* continued and a proposal to start a Representative Assembly has been under consideration. The State subscriptions included Rs. 25,000 to the Lady Reading Women of India Funds and Rs. 50,000 to the Prince of Wales' Zoological Gardens Funds.

His Highness the Maharaja was decorated with the badge of "C.S.I." by His Excellency the Viceroy during the year.

BENARES.

10. The total receipts from all sources in the year 1921-22 increased from 22·81 to 34·66 and the expenditure from 22·40 to 35·48. The crop outturn was excellent. There were no epidemics and with the fall in prices of food grains and other necessaries of life the lot of the people was much happier than in previous years. In the words of His Highness the Maharaja, there were "traces of unmistakable rural prosperity all round." This was reflected in the full collection of rent and revenue and a general decrease in crime. There were no murders or dacoities. The number of true cognizable cases reported to the police fell from 701 to 695 and there was a corresponding decrease in complaints to magistrates. Investigations were fewer, but the result of cases sent up was satisfactory.

Education continued to suffer from the effects of non-co-operation. While the enrolment and the result of examinations in the English schools were satisfactory, the vernacular schools showed a further decline. The number of scholars fell from 6,898 to 6,589, and the number of students sent up for examination fell from 107 to 77. The percentage of passes, however, improved from 58 to 74.

3.—Historical summary.

4.—Form of administration.

5.—Character of land tenure.

6.—Civil divisions of British territory.

7.—Details of last census.

(*For sections* 3 *to* 7 *see pages* 14 *to* 78 *of the report for* 1921-22.)

8.—Changes in the administration.

Governor.

11. The Hon'ble Sir Spencer Harcourt Butler, G.C.I.E., K.C.S.I., relinquished charge of the provinces on the afternoon of the 21st December, 1922 to the Hon'ble Sir Ludovic Charles Porter, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., the Finance Member, who officiated from the afternoon of the 21st December, 1922 to the forenoon of the 24th December, 1922, when the Hon'ble Sir William Sinclair Marris, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., assumed charge as Governor of these provinces.

Executive Council.

12. The Hon'ble Sir Ludovic Charles Porter, Finance Member, was on leave from the 4th May, 1922 to the 29th October, 1922, and Mr. S. H. Fremantle, C.S.I., C.I.E., acted in his place. On the 4th January, 1923 Sir Ludovic Porter went on leave and was succeeded by the Hon'ble Mr. S. P. O'Donnell, C.S.I., C.I.E. The Hon'ble Raja Sir Muhammad Ali Muhammad Khan, Khan Bahadur, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., of Mahmudabad held the office of Home Member throughout the year.

Ministers.

13. Pandit Jagat Narayan and Mr. C. Y. Chintamani were also unchanged as the Ministers in charge of transferred subjects.

9.—Relations with tributary States and frontier affairs.

14. The new scheme relating to political control of States in the United Provinces was brought into force on the 1st April, 1922. Under this scheme His Excellency the Governor of the United Provinces became Agent to His Excellency the Governor General for the three States of Rampur, Benares and Tehri. His Excellency performs exactly the same functions as have hitherto been performed by the Local Government or the Governor referring to the Government of India only in matters which under existing practice or standing orders require such reference. The demarcation of the boundary line between Rampur and the British territories in the three districts of Bareilly, Budaun and Naini Tal has been in progress. The work in the first two has been finished. For work in Naini Tal a sum Rs. 4,075 has been sanctioned for expenditure during the current year. There were two boundary disputes with the Tehri and Chattarpur Darbars in connection with lands lying in the Dehra Dun and Hamirpur districts. The former has been settled by both the Governments accepting the findings of a Joint Committee of British and Darbar officials. In the latter the Government of India appointed an arbitrator whose award has been received and accepted by this Government.

10.—Condition of the people.

(*For details see the Annual Report on Revenue Administration by the Board of Revenue for the year ending* 31*st September*, 1922.)

Season and crops.

15. Thanks to the light and beneficial rains which fell during the last three weeks of December, 1921, the yield of all the principal *rabi* crops was better than in the previous y ear. The monsoon of 1922 began with an uneven and unevenly distributed rainfall in the month of June. It was, however, sufficient to give a start to *kharif* sowings. In July the rainfall was above normal throughout the month, except in parts of Meerut and Agra divisions. In some of the eastern districts it was so much in excess that sowings were retarded. In August and the first three weeks of September rainfall was again heavy. The monsoon withdrew in the last week of September and the month of October was, except for a few light and scattered showers, practically rainless. Owing to the heavy rainfall the full normal *kharif* area could not be sown. Compared with the figures of the previous year, the decrease in area amounted to about 6 per cent. Rice and pulses had larger areas, but in other *kharif* crops, especially *juar*, small millets and *bajra*, there was a considerable decrease. The area cropped suffered a loss of about 5 per cent. and the outturn too was inferior. Sugarcane and late rice did well. The cotton crop was injured, but it improved during the fine weather of October. The season on the whole was not as favourable for the *kharif* as for the sowings for the next *rabi*.

Prices.

16. In spite of good rains and excellent prospects the dealers continued their policy of holding up their stocks, with the result that prices continued to rule high. In April when the *rabi* crop was actually being harvested they began to decline. Afterwards they fell steadily, with occasional periods of inactivity; and at the end of the year the prices of most grains were about half what they had been at its beginning. There is no doubt that dealers, relying perhaps on factors other than local harvests, paid too much for their purchases in May and June, and suffered severe losses in consequence.

Trade.

17. The tea and fruit trades in Kumaun were still in difficulties owing to the high cost of labour and transport Owing to the low prices offered by the Woollen Mills, less wool was imported and the Bhotias suffered. The fear of scarcity resulted in smaller export of grain to Bhot, Tibet and Nepal. The import of grain from Nepal was, however, brisk until stopped by the Nepal Government. In Cawnpore the trade was not "so bad as it might have been or was expected to be." Exports suffered and the depression in the hide trade continued. Imports improved, chiefly in foreign sugar. Piece-goods stocks were not

moving well and at least one local mill had very large stocks unsold. German goods of various kinds found their way into the Cawnpore bazars and were eagerly sought.

Health.

18. The year was exceptionally healthy, the total number of deaths recorded being only 1⅓ million. This is 3,50,000 lakhs below the previous year's total, and a smaller figure than any recorded in the preceding six years. The cholera epidemic of last year continued for a time and was responsible for over 14,000 deaths in the month of October. It then subsided quickly, and the total number of deaths in the year from this cause was only 21,590 against over 125,000 in 1920-21. Mortality from plague dropped from 24,983 to 18,465 and that from fever from 1·3 million to 1·1 million. Several cases of Kala-azar and hook-worm were noticed in Bulandshahr, and the latter disease was present in Sitapur also.

CHAPTER II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

11.—Realization of the Land Revenue.

(*For details see the Annual Report on the Revenue Administration by the Board of Revenue for the year ending* 30*th September*, 1922.)

Total demand and collection.

19. The total demand on account of all sources of revenue cesses and rates amounted in round figures to Rs. 959½ lakhs (interest included), as compared with Rs. 987½ lakhs in the preceding year. The difference is due mainly to a decrease of Rs. 27 lakhs in the income under occupier's rate due to abundant rainfall, of Rs. 9 lakhs due for recovery on account of *tahavi* advances under Act XII of 1884, and of Rs. 1½ lakhs in the amount due from estates under attachment. On the other hand, there was an increase of Rs. 9 lakhs in the demand for land revenue, both arrears and current, and of Rs. ½ lakh in the local rate. The real demand was Rs. 960 lakhs, of which Rs. 936 lakhs were collected and Rs. ¾ lakh remitted, leaving a balance of Rs. 23¼ lakhs. Of this Rs. 20 lakhs were due on account of loans under Acts XII of 1884 and XIX of 1883.

Land Revenue.

20. The net enforceable demand on account of land revenue was Rs. 6,90,16,748, about 8½ lakhs more than in the year 1920-21. The main items of increase were the enhancement of land revenue on the re-settlement in the Muzaffarnagar district and the large outstanding balance of the previous year. Of this sum, Rs. 60,931 was remitted, Rs. 18,196 suspended and Rs. 1,056 postponed on account of droughts, floods and fire. The actual amount for collection was Rs. 68,936,565, of which Rs. 6,89,12,565 were collected, leaving a balance of Rs. 24,000 or ·03 per cent. of the total realizable demand. No difficulty in collection has been reported. Muttra continues to be responsible for the largest amount of remissions and suspensions.

Rates.

21. The demand for occupier's rate fell from Rs. 127 lakhs to Rs. 99 lakhs, and that for owner's rate from nearly Rs. 99,000 to Rs. 87,000. The decrease, as has been noted above, was due to abundant rainfall and was shared by all canal served divisions of the province. Of the former, including arrears, 99 per cent. was collected. Of the latter all but Rs. 2,771 was collected. The demand under local rates and cesses showed an increase of Rs. 38,461 which again was due in the main to enhancement of

revenue in the Muzaffarnagar district. The demand was virtually collected in full.

Advances.

22. The satisfactory monsoon of 1921 helped by the high prices of agricultural produce resulted in a large decrease in the demand for loans under the Agricultural Loans and Improvements Acts The total amount advanced was Rs. 14·24 lakhs compared with 45·81 lakhs distributed in the previous year. Of the sum advanced Rs. 3·16 lakhs was under Act XIX of 1883 and Rs. 11·08 lakhs under Act XII of 1884. Including the amount outstanding at the commencement of last year and Rs. ·84 lakh that had remained undisbursed at the close of the year, the total sum out on loans amounted to Rs. 138·12 lakhs. The net demand amounted to Rs. 74·53 lakhs, of which Rs. 54·39 lakhs or nearly 73 per cent. was collected. The amount credited to interest during the year aggregated Rs. 10·39 lakhs.

The demand for advances under Act XIX fell from Rs. 9·24 to Rs. 3·16 lakhs. The decrease was general in all but four districts. In three of these, namely, Dehra Dun, Cawnpore and Rae Bareli, there was a large increase over the previous year's figures owing to special advances having been made to enterprising landlords for the purchase of an Austin Tractor, an engine for pumping plant and for the construction of tube wells during the year. With the aid of advances under this Act 2,395 wells, 7 tanks and 171 embankments were constructed; 1,866 wells and 20 embankments were in the course of construction, while 1,004 wells and 29 embankments were still to be begun.

The amount advanced under Act XII of 1884 fell from 36·57 to 11·08; of this Rs. 6·28 lakhs were given for seed, 2·85 for bullocks, 1·26 for subsistence, ·06 for sugar sowing, ·17 to sufferers from fire, ·12 for a tube well and ·34 for a motor tractor, agricultural machinery and implements. The largest amount (Rs. 3·37 lakhs) was taken by Lucknow division. Meerut with Rs. 1·41 lakhs came second. Among the districts Hardoi headed the list with Rs. 1·47 lakhs.

Out of the net demand of Rs. 23·30 lakhs under Act XIX Rs. 16·94 lakhs were collected, the low figure being due to excessive outstandings in Muttra, Agra and Etah districts. Under Act XII the collections amounted to Rs. 37·45 lakhs out of a net demand of 51·23. The poor collections were again due to large balances in Aligarh, Muttra, Agra and Etah, the balances in Agra division alone amounting to Rs. 11·14 lakhs out of a total of 13·78.

Coercive process.

23. Coercive process totalled 204,201 or an increase of 8,825 over the figure of the preceding year. The increase was shared by every form of process, except writs of demand and attachments of immovable property, which fell by 2,265 and three respectively. The total number of warrants of arrest was 16,465, but in only 1,304 cases were the defaulters actually detained.

12.—Settlements.

24. Unao and Partabgarh were declared under settlement operations and preliminary work was taken in hand. In Rae Bareli the work of revision of maps and records has been started as a preliminary measure with a view to the curtailment of cost of settlement operations.

The Muzaffarnagar settlement operations were closed early in January, 1922. In Muttra the settlement operations began in January, 1922, and the work carried out during the year consisted of map-correction, record-writing and attestation in tahsils Sadabad, Mat and Chhata. In Mahaban the work was completed and the assessment proposals and objections are now before the Board of Revenue. The Agra district was formally placed under survey and record and settlement operations in June, 1922, and preliminaries were undertaken.

Muttra was the only district in which there were cases to be decided. They aggregated 8,530, of which 6,608 were decided and 1,922 left pending. The revision of settlement of Garhwal has again been postponed. The expenditure during the year on settlement work in Muttra amounted to Rs. 86,169.

13.—Land Records.

(For details see the Annual Report on the Administration of Land Records for the year ending 30th September, 1922.)

25. There were no changes in the Land Records staff. Establishment Patwaris.

26. One patwari in the Naini Tal district was appointed as a permanent supervisor kanungo and seven were permanently promoted as assistant registrar kanungos and three as partition amins in other districts; while a large number officiated in the posts of supervisor kanungos and assistant registrar kanungos and a few in other vacancies in the vernacular departments of the collectorates. Seven patwaris were exempted both from the educational test and age-limit and four from age-limit only. The percentage of passed patwaris again showed a slight increase, but still in some districts the percentage of unqualified men is as high as 13. The residence of patwaris in their circles has been engaging the attention of District Officers. The percentage of resident patwaris improved from 81·9 to 82·16 during the year.

Kanungos.

27. Two sadar kanungos of Jaunpur and Partabgarh, nominated by the District Officers, were selected as approved candidates for tahsildarship and the sadar kanungo of Muzaffarnagar who is an approved candidate is officiating as a tahsildar. Four supervisor kanungos got permanent promotions to sadar kanungoship; one was made *sub. pro tem.* and seven officiated as such.

Fifty-three were appointed officiating naib-tahsildars and seventeen as temporary naib-tahsildars in connection with *takavi* and co-operative banks business. Eight were selected by the Board as approved candidates for naib-tahsildarship and one diplomate of the kanungo school was given direct appointment in accordance with rule 2 (2) of Board's Circular 1-IXA.

Revision of circles.

28. No large scheme of re-allocation of patwari circles was introduced during the year. Five circles in the Cawnpore district were abolished and the work distributed among the patwaris of the adjacent circles.

Testing of papers.

29. The supervisors being free from census work they were able to devote the whole of their time to testing the work of patwaris. Their tests of all the records were accordingly above the standard prescribed by rules. The amount of testing by the officers of the Headquarters staff, though larger than that of the last year, was still below the outturn of previous years. This is attributed to the curtailment of the period of touring and in some districts to officers still having to combat the non-co-operation movement. "Re-testing" is receiving more attention, but in some districts the number of mistakes detected was so low as to raise a doubt as to the thoroughness of the tests.

Maps.

30. The maps are generally reported to be in a fairly good condition, except in the districts of Bahraich and Ghazipur. In Naini Tal the changes in boundaries and the shapes of fields are so frequent and so numerous that it was found difficult to keep the maps correct. A regular campaign for bringing the maps up to date by patwaris and kanungos is under contemplation.

The scheme for the supervision of land records by whole-time officers in six districts was continued. The Director of Land Records recommends a further extension of the scheme.

Maintenance of boundary marks.

31. The condition of these marks is generally reported to be satisfactory and necessary action for their repairs or renewal was taken. In a few places the excessive rainfall is reported to have delayed the work of fixing these marks.

Concealment of rent.

32. Cases of concealment of rent have been reported from three districts only, but several District Officers have indicated that the practice is common. In one Oudh district action by the Deputy Commissioner is said to have secured a correction of rentals in several villages; while in Basti, where a good deal of concealment is said to exist, some old-fashioned zamindars are finding difficulty in collecting more than the recorded rents.

14.—Waste Lands.

33. There is nothing of importance to record.

15.– Government Estates.

(*For details as regards minor estates and Dudhi see the Annual Report on the Revenue Administration by the Board of Revenue for the year ending the* 30*th September*, 1922; *for the Government estates in the Kumaun Division see the separate reports for the year ending the* 31*st March*, 1923.)

Minor estates.

34. At the beginning of the year 477 properties were under management; 12 passed out of the possession of Government and eight new estates were brought under Government charge. The large properties are still the same as in the previous year. The current demand rose from Rs. 4,08,573 to Rs. 4,15,460. The increase was due to the absence of scarcity in Dudhi and to the good mango and *mohwa* crops. Including the arrears, the total demand was Rs. 4,30,331, of which Rs. 4,16,019 or 96·6 per cent. was collected.

Dudhi.

35. The Dudhi estate had on the whole a favourable year, the distribution of rain being fairly even throughout the tahsil. The *kharif* crops were good and prospects of *rabi* excellent. The income of the estate rose from Rs. 48,096 to Rs. 59,830. All buildings and roads were maintained in good order. The primary schools improved and the commercial conditions were satisfactory.

Tarai and Bhabar estates.

36. The *rabi* crop promised to be good, but was damaged by high winds. *Kharif* was poor owing to late arrival of the rains in June, excessive rainfall in August and caterpillars in September. Tenants no longer get the high prices they received in former years; rents are however light and tenants' resources are adequate. Receipts amounted to Rs. 9,11,819 as against Rs. 8,34,798. The increase of Rs. 77,021 was due to revision of rent rates in Tarai and increased sales of timber in the forests. Economies effected a reduction of expenditure of Rs. 35,690. The working of the year resulted in a surplus of Rs. 2,96,599, excluding the sum of Rs. 70,096 paid as land revenue. There was no epidemic during the year. Malaria in a mild form broke out at the end of the rainy season, followed by some fever during the cold weather. Deaths still exceeded the births, but the figures for the year are better than those of the previous two years. It is generally remarked that the climate is improving.

The political atmosphere was peaceful. The number of dacoities increased from 24 to 29. But the tenants encouraged by the activities of the special police under Mr. Young are getting bolder and have on three occasions turned on the dacoits with success. They were granted remissions of rents and rewards in the shape of cash and guns.

Garhwal Bhabar estates.

37. The year was a prosperous one. The tenants were prosperous and contented. More *pakka* houses were built and the

protective stone walling was further extended. The rainfall was satisfactory, yielding good *kharif* and *rabi* crops. The income rose from Rs. 32,205 to Rs. 35,557. The expenditure fell from Rs. 25,232 to Rs. 21,350. There were no epidemics and the year was on the whole healthy.

16.—Wards' Estates.

(*For details see the Annual Report on the operations of the Court of Wards for the year ending the 30th September*, 1922.)

Number of estates under the court.

38. The number of estates under management decreased from 151 to 146. Ten estates with a rent roll of 1·54 lakhs were released during the year under report and five estates with a rent roll of 1·32 lakhs taken over.

Estates taken over and released.

39. Of the estates taken over Rajaur was the biggest. Another estate Thalwansa in Rae Bareli was taken over to prevent its sale. The Government intervened with a loan of 1·87 lakhs.

Of the estates released, Khajurahra in Hardoi was the most important. It was taken over in 1912, when it was so heavily indebted that the income was not sufficient even to pay the interest. The property could only be saved by large sales. The sales were postponed till suitable prices were offered. Property yielding profit of Rs. 23,000 was sold for the satisfactory figure of 7·16 lakhs and the estate was released on the 25th January, 1922.

Financial.

40. The gross receipts rose from 152·05 lakhs to 203·49 lakhs and the expenditure from 140·47 lakhs to 208·90, lakhs of which investments accounted for 42·50 lakhs.

Rent collection.

41. Of the net demand (Rs. 1,32,72,437) Rs. 1,27,8[illegible],701 was collected. The percentage of collection this year was 96·3 as against 93·1 in the previous year. The collection of arrears improved from 24·2 per cent. to 35·4. per cent. The improvement was due to good agricultural conditions.

Land revenue.

42. The demand for land revenue and cesses amounted to Rs. 44,44,022. It works out at 32·8 per cent. on the rental demand and 34·8 per cent. on the actual collections. The whole demand was paid in full.

Cost of management.

43. The cost of management rose from 14·28 lakhs to 15·79 lakhs. This is due to the inclusion of Balrampur figures for the whole year. The percentage of the cost of management has, however, fallen from 12·2 to 11·1, which is due to low percentage in Balrampur and to genuine economies carried out during the year. The total amount paid in liquidation of debts amounted to Rs. 37,68,074. Most of the indebted estates succeeded in keeping pace with the liquidation scheme. The amount of debt outstanding at the close of the year was 135·20 lakhs.

44. The total expenditure on improvements amounted to 10·87 lakhs against 8·08 lakhs in the previous year. The increase is again mainly due to the inclusion of Balrampur figures for a full year. The improvement of water-supply received considerable attention during the year. The major portion of the expenditure went on wells, and in spite of various adverse circumstances 371 wells were put down and completed during the year. In addition to these, 66 old wells were repaired. Agricultural demonstration farms have been run with varying success. Reclamation of waste land, tree-planting and stock-breeding were carried on in several districts. In one of the estates in Kheri a trained agricultural assistant was appointed to tour and advise the tenantry on agricultural subjects. Improvements.

45. The expenditure on sanitation and medical relief went up from Rs. 63,623 to Rs. 2,19,469. Of this, Balrampur estate alone is responsible for Rs. 1,40,905. The estate maintained six dispensaries in Bahraich and Gonda and one fully equipped hospital at Lucknow. Sanitation and education.

The expenditure on education rose from Rs. 80,374 to Rs. 1,32,829. The increase again is due to the inclusion for the first time of expenditure on the Lyall Collegiate School and the Girls' School at Balrampur. Expenditure on buildings rose from Rs. 26,099 to Rs. 29,458, and that on schools exclusively maintained by the estates from Rs. 19,729 to Rs. 31,592. The contribution to the district boards went up from Rs. 6,479 to Rs. 9,089 and the amount of scholarships from Rs. 3,360 to Rs. 10,570. Among other contributions may be mentioned Rs. 1,89,611 to the Lucknow University, Rs. 81,578 to Canning College and other institutions, and Rs. 10,300 to the Shia College.

46. The year was one of marked progress. The number of village societies increased from 302 to 489 and the working capital from Rs. 2,27,700 to Rs. 4,55,953. The majority of these societies are doing well. Agricultural banks.

47. The necessity of keeping down revenue and rent litigation received attention, and in the cases brought into court the Court of Wards was reasonably successful. On civil side the Court of Wards was engaged in 61 original suits and appeals exceeding Rs. 10,000 in value. Of these, 28 were decided and 33 remained pending at the close of the year. Of the 28 cases decided, one was withdrawn, 16 were won and five were compromised. Litigation.

48. The accounts of 100 estates were audited. The results show that in several districts considerable improvement, specially in mufassil accounts, is necessary. There was only one case of embezzlement. Accounts.

49. Out of 88 wards between the ages of 10 and 21, 65 were at various schools and colleges. Besides these, 70 relatives of the General.

various wards were also receiving education. The number at Colvin Taluqdars School at Lucknow was 28. Two army officers were appointed as tutors of the Nanpara and Naraini wards. An experienced lady governess was found for the young Maharaja of Balrampur. Nine wards and ex-wards were given instruction in estate management; five however showed no inclination to profit from this essential part of their education. The total amount spent on education and the maintenance of the wards and their relatives amounted to Rs. 31,78,818.

17.—Revenue and rent-paying classes.

(*For details see the Annual Report on the Revenue Administration by the Board of Revenue for the year ending the 30th September*, 1922.)

Tenancy litigation, Agra.

50. The favourable turn begun in the previous year was continued. Including cases which could not be filed on account of holidays at the end of the year, the total number of institutions fell from 466,784 to 430,901. Out of the total decrease of 35,883, ejectments accounted for 28,411, and considerable decrease was recorded under arrears of rent cases. The increases were in distraints, enhancements, resumptions and miscellaneous applications.

Suits for arrears of rent and ejectment for arrears.

51. Suits for arrears of rent decreased from 207,147 to 197,930 which was the natural result of good harvests and high prices. There was an increase in Dehra Dun which is attributed to poor crops and agitation. The number of applications for ejectment for decreed arrears was practically unchanged. The number of cases in which ejectment was ordered was 9,572 and the area concerned was 45,386 acres, of which 39,083 acres were in the possession of occupancy tenants.

Enhancement of rent.

52. Taking into account cases filed after close of the year, there was on increase of over 2,000 in the number of enhancement cases instituted—an increase explainable by the increased value of produce and the not unnatural desire of the landlords to share in it.

Relinquishments fell from 11,508 to 11,023, which may be attributed to the better condition of the tenants.

Ejectment other than for arrears.

53. The number of ejectment suits dropped from 158,170 to 129,759. This decrease is a pleasing feature of the Rent Law litigation of the year. There was an increase in Mirzapur which is attributed to the rise in the value of land owing to canal irrigation. The total number of suits in which ejectment was ordered was 122,687 and the area concerned 298,608 acres.

Protected area.

54. Excluding the Naini Tal district the total area held by tenants with occupancy rights fell from 10,143,607 to 10,096,859 acres. The decrease was general excepting two

districts, namely, Bulandshahr and Muttra. The circumstances of Bulandshahr have been dealt with in the report of the previous year. In Muttra record operations were going on in connection with settlement. Non-occupancy land held for 12 or more years rose from 4,081,716 to 4,207,350 acres. Land under leases for seven years or more rose from 927,281 to 975,648. If all these forms of protection are taken together, the total protected area amounts to 15,279,857 acres or 72·8 per cent. of the total area held by tenants, the corresponding percentage in 1901-02 being 63·5.

Rent litigation in Oudh.

55. Suits and applications under the Oudh Rent Act increased from 38,592 to 43,946, the increase being shared by all districts except Rae Bareli, Fyzabad and Partabgarh. While notices to ejectment fell from 22,335 to 7,030, the number of ejectment suits went up from 1,361 to 9,288. These large variations were caused by the peculiar circumstances of the year due to agrarian agitation, changes in the law, and also holding up of ejectment applications for a time by an executive order. For purposes of comparison, the figures are of little real value.

Rent Court work.

56. The institution during the year fell from 466,784 to 409,234, the total for disposal amounting to 594,609 against 653,513 in the previous year. In spite of a decrease of 7,860 in disposal, the pending file was reduced to 133,250. In Oudh the number of cases for disposal fell from 100,590 to 69,174. Of these 64,313 were disposed of, leaving 4,861 pending at the close of the year. The number of appeals for disposal by Collectors in Agra rose from 5,580 to 6,048, while those to Deputy Commissioners in Oudh fell from 976 to 893. Appeals to Commissioners rose from 8,930 to 9,433. The disposals were much better than in the previous year, the pending file having been reduced from 8,220 to 7,808. The main cause of the improvement was the appointment of an additional Commissioner almost throughout the year. The number of appeals to District Judges rose from 1,743 to 1,949.

Mutation in revenue papers.

57. The total number of changes in proprietary rights to which effect was given increased from 277,063 to 281,730. Recorded successions rose from 157,506 to 168,828, the main causes being the cholera epidemic and the activity of special Land Record Officers in bringing omissions to light. Sales of revenue-paying lands by the orders of courts fell from 3,216 to 2,742, those of revenue-free lands increased from 78 to 84. The total number of mutations by the orders of the courts fell from 9,106 to 8,203.

Partition cases.

58. The total number of new applications for partition was 3,874, bringing the total for disposal to 9,572 against 9,483 in the previous year. The number of cases disposed of was 3,959 against 3,788 in the previous year and the pending file was slightly reduced from 5,695 to 5,613. The number of cases

for disposal was the largest in the districts of Meerut, Saharanpur, Gorakhpur and Muzaffarnagar. The heavy pending file in Saharanpur and Muzaffarnagar is due to the work having been held up by settlement. Few local inspections have again been made, and this is attributed to the shorter time now spent by Revenue Officers on tour.

CHAPTER III.—PROTECTION.

18.—Legislative authority.

(*For details see the General Administration Report for the year* 1921-22.)

59. The legislative authority remained the same.

19.—Course of legislation.

60. The following is the list of Acts passed by the Legislative Council during the year 1922-23 :—

(1) An Act to amend the Allahabad University Act, 1921. (Act VIII of 1922.)

(2) An Act to amend the United Provinces Municipalities Act, 1916. (Act IX of 1922.)

(3) An Act to make better provision for Local Self-Government in rural areas of the United Provinces. (Act X of 1922.)

(4) An Act to consolidate and amend the law relating to pre-emption in the Province of Agra. (Act XI of 1922.)

(5) An Act to transfer to the Local Government or to some other authority certain non-judicial powers now exercisable by the Board of Revenue under certain enactments. (Act XII of 1922.)

(6) Oudh Rent (Amendment) Act, I of 1923.

(7) The United Provinces Excise (Amendment) Act, II of 1923.

(8) The United Provinces Court-Fees (Amendment) Act, III of 1923.

(9) The United Provinces Land Revenue (Amendment) Act, IV of 1923.

20.—Police.

(*For details see the Annual Report on the Administration of the Police department for the year ending* 31*st December*, 1922.)

61. The year, in the words of Government resolution on the working of Police for the year 1922, "opened badly." The first **Crime statistics.**

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three months of the year were full of great anxiety for officers responsible for the maintenance of law and order. The political ferment was greater than ever and prices had not begun to fall. With the arrest of Mr. Gandhi the agitation began to subside and the good harvest and falling prices tended to keep the masses content. This was reflected in the criminal returns. The total number of offences reported, including true cases reported to magistrates, fell from 143,784 to 142,394, a decrease of 1,390. The decrease was greatest in cases of burglary and theft; on the other hand there was a considerable rise in rioting, murder, and criminal force. Broadly speaking, the former was due to improved economic conditions and the latter to the political situation during the earlier months of 1922. Reports to the Police decreased by 5 per cent. Reports to magistrates rose by over 13 per cent. This was partly due to the fact that in certain classes of offences investigations by the Police are not now obligatory.

Investigations.

62. The percentage of convictions to cases investigated was 43·45 compared with 41·19 in the previous year. No investigation was made in 20·47 per cent. of the cases as against 15·21 in the previous year. This percentage is rising and is due to the discretion given to Police officers mentioned in the preceding paragraph.

Coin, stamps, and notes.

63. The number of true cases under the head of "Counterfeiting" fell from 59 to 31. Of these 22 were sent up to courts, 16 ending in conviction.

Murders.

64. The number of murders rose from 735 to 842, and murders by dacoits from 90 to 136. The ratin of convictions to reports fell from 28·2 to 23·17. Bara Banki, Sitapur, Hardoi, Meerut, Aligarh, Moradabad, Cawnpore, Etah, Bulandshahr, returned large numbers of murder cases. The tragedy of Chauri Chaura in Gorakhpur was responsible for no less than 23 murders. The case resulted in the conviction of 129 men, 19 of whom were sentenced to death and 110 to transportation. There were six cases in which women were convicted of the murder of their children; in five of these sentences were suitably reduced. The sixth case will be re-considered after a period of five years.

Poisoning.

65. Excluding cases of murder by poison, cases of poisoning fell from 76 in 1921 to 60 in 1922. Including cases brought forward from 1921, the total dealt with was 73. Thirty of these cases were disposed of, 17 resulting in conviction and 13 in acquittals. The number of professional poisoners engaged was 11 as against 16 in 1921.

Dacoities.

66. There was once again an increase in this form of crime. The total number of true cases rose from 1,277 to 1,382. The number of cases in the first three months of 1922 was relatively much larger than in the remaining portion of the year. For this the political situation may be blamed.

The total number of cases tried was 360 of which 275 resulted in conviction The percentage of cases convicted to cases tried was 76·19 as against 84 in 1921, and that of persons convicted to persons tried was 53·45 as against 55 in the previous year.

The districts returning the largest number of dacoities were Moradabad, Gorakhpur, Bara Banki, Bijnor, Budaun, Rai Bareli, Meerut, Aligarh, Kheri and Naini Tal. Firearms were alleged to have been used or carried in 577 cases. In 28 of the murders in dacoity the fatal wounds were caused by spears. Eighty dacoities are ascribed to criminals from adjacent States and 200 to members of criminal tribes.

Robbery, burglary and theft.

67. Cases of robbery totalled 851, compared with 809 in 1921. One hundred and ninety-four cases involving 314 persons ended in conviction, again a smaller measure of success than in the previous year. Aligarh again showed a marked partiality for this form of crime. The number of true cases of burglary decreased from 54,061 to 52,933. The percentage of convictions to reports was seven compared with nine in the previous three years. Sitapur showed a decrease of 463 cases; in other districts where variations were striking a decrease followed an increase in the previous year and vice versa. The exceptions are Moradabad, which has shown an increase for two successive years and Jaunpur which shows a third successive decrease. Results were good in Cawnpore, Etawah and Jhansi and particularly poor in Jaunpur, Ballia, Azamgarh, Rae Bareli and Hardoi.

There was a further decrease in offences under "Theft," the total number of cases for disposal falling from 29,940 to 28,670. These are again the lowest figures on record. The percentages of cases convicted to cases tried remained the same (90). The percentage of persons convicted to persons tried fell from 49 to 43. Eight districts reported theft of firearms, the most important being the loss of five rifles from the guard room of the 114th Battery at Allahabad. Thefts of bicycles were again numerous in Meerut.

All these figures taken together suggest that the professional criminal is turning from the commission of petty thefts and burglaries to the more highly organized and more lucrative forms of crime such as dacoity and robbery. The tendency is one which must give rise to some anxiety.

Cattle theft.

68. The number of true cases fell from 4,476 to 4,214. Of 1,152 cases tried 1,035 resulted in conviction. Results were again best in districts which have no professional cattle thieves. In Meerut, Bulandshahr and Muzaffarnagar the results were unsatisfactory.

Criminal tribes.

69. The registered population fell from 35,514 to 34,909. The Kosi Barwars of Rae Bareli, the Pasis of Lucknow, the Nats of one village in Allahabad and the Gujars of one village in Moradabad were brought under the operation of the Act during the year. The revision of the register of gipsies was continued with the result that the number of registered persons was reduced by 1,082 to 5,173. There is no general evidence of internal reform.

The number of settlements and schools remained unchanged. The development of the new settlement of Kalyanpur has been delayed owing to the difficulty of securing permanent employment for new settlers in the depressed state of industries, the refusal of Cawnpore firms to give employment and the failure of the Bombay-Baroda and Central India Railway Company to run a workmen's train. The total number on the rolls increased from 3,399 to 3,435 and of these 2,347 are registered. One hundred and forty-nine registered settlers absconded, of whom 124 were arrested. At the close of the year 30 per cent. of the registered population were either absconding, or in jail. The Bhantus continued to be the most troublesome of the criminal tribes.

Surveillance.

70. The year opened with 30,673 history sheets. During the year 8,939 new sheets were opened and 7,571 discontinued, the total number amounting to 32,041 at the close of the year. Of the persons to whom these related 7,661 were in jail, 4,543 having been convicted during the year, 3,851 were untraced and 20,529 were present at their homes. The number on the Surveillance register fell to 5,819. Surveillance ceases to be effective if the number on the register is too large: but it is open to question whether action on this principle has not been carried too far. The question of the revision of existing rules is under consideration.

Finger Print Bureau.

71. The work of the Bureau remained normal. The number of slips received for record fell from 11,032 to 10,944. Further progress was made in the elimination of unnecessary slips with the result that 19,592 were removed during the year. The number of slips of unidentified persons received for search was 13,214 as against 13,693 in the previous year. The percentage of slips successfully traced was 20·6 compared with 18·05 in 1921. The number of absconders traced rose from 350 to 417.

Absconded offenders.

72. The number of absconded offenders fell from 3,035 to 2,980. Of 987 persons shown as apprehended during the year the Police accounted for 647; 455 in the district of proclamation and 192 elsewhere.

Co-operation with Indian States.

73. Cordial relations continued to exist between the British Police and the officials of the bordering States. The Rampur officials again gave valuable assistance in rounding up dacoits who had found refuge in that State. With the help of the Datia Durbar, a desperate gang of most dangerous criminals was accounted for during the year.

Village headmen and chaukidars.

74. The number of village headmen fell from 99,119 to 98,647. The decrease was greatest in Bahraich, Bara Banki, Jaunpur, Shahjahanpur and Gorakhpur districts. There was a further decrease in the reports of crime furnished by them, but, as reported in the previous years, information on this point is not trustworthy.

The proposals of the Civil Police Committee were fully carried out, and the number of chaukidars was reduced from 87,903 to 51,885. It is probable that as a result of this change the movements of bad characters and the commission of petty offences have not been reported in full: but on the whole the Police statistics and Police work have not been much affected. It is, however, too early at present to form a correct estimate of the final effect that will follow the reduction in this force. Since the close of the year further reductions have been made, and the proposal is under consideration to abolish chaukidars experimentally in selected areas.

Strength and cost of Police.

75. The sanctioned strength of the regular Police was further reduced by 5 sub-inspectors, 65 head constables and 574 constables during the year. This was due to the reduction in the Criminal Investigation department and in the district staff recommended by the Civil Police Committee. The total cost rose from 136·87 lakhs to 138·60 lakhs. The increase was chiefly due to (i) periodical increments in the pay of constables, (ii) issue of additional kit to constables on enlistment, (iii) revision of horse allowances payable to members of the mounted branch, and (iv) enhancement of cadet allowances to students at the Police Training School. Resignations rose from 1,250 to 1,688. The increase was probably due to the intensive anti-Government campaign carried on during the early months of the year.

Punishments.

76. Twelve officers and 364 men were dismissed as compared with 10 officers and 353 men in 1921; 64 officers and 715 men were punished otherwise. The punishment return, though somewhat heavier than in 1921, is still an unusually light one.

Armed and mounted Police.

77. The re-organisation of this branch of the force, so far as it could be effected without the creation of a Military Police Battalion, was taken in hand during the year. Pending the creation of the Military Police Battalion the auxiliary force sanctioned was 47 sub-inspectors, 67 head constables, 69 naiks and 1,538 constables. Resignations rose from 249 to 452, which was due to special circumstances which happily no longer exist. The use of motor transport which was initiated last year was extended by the purchase and supply of 50 additional cars and lorries. There can be no question of their utility but their upkeep is expensive and it has since been decided to reduce the number to 25 and to locate them in selected districts.

The strength and disposition of the mounted police remained unchanged except that as a temporary measure part of the Agra troop was transferred to Aligarh owing to local disturbances. The raising of the horse allowance in 1921 and the consequent improvement in the conditions of service have revived the popularity of this branch and recruitment was better than it has been for some years past. The discipline of the mounted police undoubtedly improved during 1922 and the extra work thrown upon them at some of the larger centres during the early months of 1922 was cheerfully and efficiently performed.

Railway Police.

78. The number of cognizable cases increased by 12 per cent. from 8,119 to 9,081 and non-cognizable offences by 29 per cent., from 2,721 to 3,521. The increase in the number of non-cognizable cases is due to greater activity on the part of the railway administration in prosecuting persons found travelling without tickets. The East Indian Railway has again the worst crime record and the Bengal and North-Western Railway the best. The increase in cognizable cases was mainly in minor offences against property, chiefly theft. The department has urged the necessity for the adoption of a thief proof lock for goods wagons and for the reorganization of the railway watch and ward staff. The number of dacoities increased from 3 to 21. Of these six cases resulted in conviction and three were pending before the court at the close of the year. Robberies increased from 12 to 17 and cases of poisoning decreased from 16 to 7. Thefts rose from 6,901 to 7,734. There were four cases of murder, none of which were worked out.

Railway accidents.

79. There were two serious collisions; in one of these two European ladies were killed and in the other the driver and foreman and a train guard constable lost their lives. Prosecutions were instituted in connection with each of these cases. Attempts at derailment fell from 15 to 12. None of these was of a very serious nature. Excluding suicide and attempts to suicide the number of persons killed or seriously injured fell from 445 and 468 to 357 and 396 respectively.

Rural Police.

80. The total sum paid in rewards rose from Rs. 36,527 to Rs. 56,486 and the number of men rewarded from Rs. 21,279 to Rs. 32,988. The increase is chiefly due to payment of allowances to chaukidars when employed outside their own beats.

Training school.

81. Once again the school had a successful year. There were 148 students all of whom appeared in the examination and with the exception of two were successful. Ten Assistant and three Deputy Superintendents were in residence at the beginning of the year, and nine other Assistant Superintendents joined during the year. Three Assistant and two Deputy Superintendents left the school on the completion of their course. Once

again the shortage of Assistant Superintendents in districts necessitated the transfer of several officers from the school before they had qualified in the language test. An examination in riding and troop drill for gazetted officers under training at the school was inaugurated in 1922 and the examination of sergeants for promotion to the rank of Inspector was also brought under the control of the principal and his staff to ensure greater uniformity than has hitherto existed.

Criminal Investigation department.

82. The position of the department has been summarized in the following words:—

"Depleted resources and an absolutely inadequate staff on the one hand and increased pressure of work on the other." The staff was reduced by 1 Superintendent, 2 Deputy Superintendents, 3 Inspectors, 10 Sub-Inspectors, 9 Head Constables and 40 Constables. The total number of enquiries undertaken by the department during the year rose from 92 to 132, of which 65 ended in conviction. A reorganization scheme prepared by the Deputy Inspector-General was sanctioned after the close of the year, and the end of the difficulties under which the department has been labouring for the past two years is now in sight.

Buildings.

83. The amount finally allotted for expenditure was Rs. 5,35,218. Several major works were completed or approached completion during the year. The heavy rainfall of 1922 has made the condition of police buildings worse and the demand for grants more pressing. No department suffers more in this respect from the financial stringency.

21.—Criminal Justice.

(*For details see Annual Report on Criminal Justice for the year ending* 31*st December*, 1921, *and the tables under the head "Criminal Justice" in volume IV, Statistics of British India.*)

AGRA.

General.

84. The total number of sessions divisions as mentioned in the last year's report remained 19. The creation of separate divisions for Basti and Muzaffarnagar is still delayed owing to lack of funds and buildings. The additional court of a Sessions and Subordinate Judge at Cawnpore for Fatehpur continues to be temporary. In addition temporary Additional Sessions Judges worked at Aligarh, Bareilly, Cawnpore, Saharanpur and Meerut.

Number of trials.

85. The total number of offences reported under the Indian Penal Code, including those pending from the previous year, rose from 96,753 to 103,417 and the number of cases returned as

true from 69,773 to 72,141. The number of cases brought to trial increased from 60,505 to 64,063, and the number of persons who came under trial from 150,998 to 162,964.

The figures compared with those for the previous year indicate a recrudescence of crime. Part of the increase may be due to the disappearance of the "National panchayats" of the non-co-operators: but in addition to this there were floods which resulted in loss of crops and the means of livelihood, and prices continued to rule high. There was a very marked rise in the number of offences against the State. Offences against public tranquillity were appreciably fewer than in the previous year. Contempts of lawful authority of public servants reached a higher figure than in 1921, for the spirit of lawlessness was still abroad. The number of offences affecting the public health, safety etc., which had been unusually low in the previous year, went up to a more normal figure. Cases of hurt brought to trial increased by well over 1,000 and 6,528 more persons were placed on trial. The figures for kidnapping and kindred offences are higher throughout than those in 1921; this is a lucrative branch of crime and very special difficulties are experienced in dealing with it, the chief being that the victim is so often smuggled away at once to another province. Theft cases were 122 fewer but there was a rise of 137 under robbery and dacoity. Offences under Special and Local Laws rose from 74,149 to 81,850. The number of cases reported as true was 72,620, the number of persons brought to trial 97,324 and the number of persons convicted 70,217. The number of persons brought to trial under the Cantonments Military Act went up from 2,506 to 3,140. Prosecutions under the Gambling and the Hackney and Stage-carriages Act again increased. The number of cases and persons brought to trial under the Municipalities Act went up by about 500 apiece. Prosecutions under the Police Act V of 1861 decreased by 504 and 673 fewer persons were proceeded against. Prosecutions under the Act for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals rose by 258, and those under the Railway Act by 550. Figures of prosecutions and convictions under the Sanitation Act are very much lower than those of 1921 and figures for Forest Law offences, though still high, are far lower than those of the previous year, there being a decrease of 273 in the number of cases brought to trial and of 1,980 in the number of persons involved. This decrease is reported to be due to action taken on the findings of Forest Grievances Commission.

The percentage of persons convicted to persons under trial fell from 42 to 40 in magistrates' courts and from 63 to 62 in the courts of session. The percentage of cases dismissed under section 203, Criminal Procedure Code, again went up to 21, the same figure which was reached in 1917 and 1920. The total number of persons fined under section 250 of the Code fell from 332 to 326.

86. The average duration of cases in all courts rose from 10 to 11 days. It increased from 9 to 10 days in the courts of District Magistrates, and from 37 to 44 in the courts of sessions. Duration of trials.

87. In the year under review 215 persons were sentenced to death by sessions courts as compared with 157 in the previous year. Of these 134 sentences were confirmed by the High Court, 43 persons were released, 21 obtained modification of sentence, one re-trial was ordered, and the cases of 16 were still pending at the close of the year. In 79 cases where persons condemned to death were too poor to employ counsel in the High Court, arrangements for their defence were made at Government expense. The number of persons sentenced to transportation for life rose from 328 to 377, and that of persons sentenced to rigorous imprisonment from 17,462 to 18,745. The total number of sentences of whipping fell from 1,477 to 1,236, 172 of the persons sentenced being juveniles. Punishments.

88. The total number of the appellants rose from 17,705 to 18,103, and the applications for revision from 4,154 to 4,755. In 9,211 cases the appeal or revision was rejected, in 8,779 the sentence or order was confirmed and in 47 the sentence was enhanced. In 3,707 cases the sentence was reversed and in 336 cases the proceedings were quashed. A new trial or further enquiry was ordered in 603 cases. The percentage of totally unsuccessful appellants and applicants for revision was 68 as against 70 in the previous year. Appeals and revisions.

OUDH.

89. The total number of offences reported rose from 56,119 to 60,336 or by 7·52 per cent. The increase in the offences under the Indian Penal Code amounted to 2,115. It is, however, confined to less important forms of crime, specially to offences of causing hurt, mischief, criminal force and assault. Offences under Special and Local Laws increased from 22,641 to 24,743. The increase is due to the enforcement of the Criminal Law Amendment Act during the earlier part of the year. Offences under the Criminal Tribes Act, the Police Act, the Cattle Trespass Act and Excise Act have also contributed to the increase. Number of trials.

The number of accused under trial rose from 90,792 to 101,068. Out of 65,516 persons dealt with under the Indian Penal Code 10,532 or 16 per cent. were convicted. Out of 35,552 persons dealt with under other Acts 21,712 or 61 per cent. were convicted.

90. The average duration of trials in the courts of magistrates and sessions was 9·50 and 54·18 respectively as against 9·23 and 49·55 in the previous year. Duration of trials.

91. Sentences of death were passed on 47 persons as against 78 in the previous year. The number of persons sentenced to Punishments.

transportation for life was 54 as against 83 in the preceding year. Excluding persons who were imprisoned for failure to furnish security the total number of persons against whom the sentence of imprisonment was passed by Magistrates and courts of sessions was 6,907 as against 7,223 in the previous year. The number of persons sentenced to whipping fell from 449 to 256.

Appeals and revisions.

92. The number of appeals and applications for revision in the Magistrates' court rose from 1,460 to 1,606, while in the courts of sessions it fell from 1,702 to 1,460. The total number of appellants in the Judicial Commissioner's court fell from 951 to 633; that of applicants for revision, however, rose from 463 to 560. Out of 567 appellants whose cases were disposed of only 55 were successful; in respect of 443 the orders of the lower courts were upheld.

22.—Prisons.

General.

93. The year opened with a total of 24,282 prisoners of all classes and closed with a total of 28,307. The increase in the number is due partly to convictions for political offences but mainly to a substantial increase in the number of persons imprisoned for failure to find security under the preventive sections of the Criminal Procedure Code. The total daily average number of prisoners of all classes was 26,778 as against 25,164 in the previous year. The year opened with 95 civil prisoners. One thousand and thirty-one prisoners were admitted and 1,004 discharged, leaving 122 at the close of the year.

Punishments

94. The number of serious offences necessitating trial and punishment by the criminal courts rose from 19 to 21. Of these 13 were in connection with escapes and the rest in connection with assaults on jail officials or on other prisoners. The total number of punishments rose from 22,535 to 23,988. The number of floggings was 40 against 23 in the preceding year.

Expenditure.

95. The total cost of guarding and maintaining the prisoners amounted to Rs. 33·52 lakhs as compared with Rs. 29·42 lakhs in the previous year, the increase being due to the larger number of prisoners and the higher rates of foodstuffs. The total cost per head rose from Rs. 116-14-10 to Rs. 125-3-0.

Employment.

96. The total cash profit made by the jail factories during the year rose from Rs. 4,47,046 to Rs. 586,307. This appreciable rise was due to the efforts made by the jails to run their factories in a more businesslike way.

Health.

97. The death-rate fell from 21·4 in 1921 to 14·6 during 1922. The total number of deaths was 391, the largest number being reported under pneumonia, tuberculosis, dysentery and influenza. There were no deaths from plague, cholera and relapsing fever.

98. The number of juveniles imprisoned during the year increased from 101 to 124. The number at the Juvenile Jail at Bareilly at the close of the year rose to 260. The conduct of the inmates was good throughout the year. Attention is paid both to the moral and physical development of the boys, and classes in first aid to the injured were started during the year. Juvenile Jail at Bareilly.

99. Little progress has been possible in introducing the reforms recommended by the Indian Jails Committee, as most of them involved heavy expenditure, which under present financial condition it is impossible to undertake. Effect, however, has been given to several of the Committee's recommendations which involve no additional expenditure. Among these may be mentioned the appointment of non-official visitors to District Jails, the constitution of Boards to revise the sentences of long-term prisoners, and the restriction of the use of fetters. Reforms.

23.—Civil Justice.

AGRA.

100. The institution of suits during the year 1922 reached the high figure of 153,115, showing an increase of 8,406 compared with the figure of 1921. In munsifs' courts under their ordinary powers institutions rose by 6,584, in small cause courts by 942, in subordinate judges' courts by 672, and in district judges' courts by 4. Suits for money or movable property rose by 7,726, suits for immovable property by 1,386, suits for specific relief by 612, matrimonial suits by 17, and testamentary suits by 5; on the other hand, suits to establish a right of pre-emption fell by 616, mortgage suits by 439, suits relating to religious and other endowments by 4, and suits not falling under any of the previous head by 281. Except for suits not exceeding Rs. 10 in value (which fell by 345) the increase was general in suits of all values, and suits between Rs. 100 and Rs. 500 in value rose by as much as 5,012. Only the judgeships of Shahjahanpur and Budaun show a drop in institutions of 675 and 175 respectively; otherwise the increase was universal throughout the judgeships of the Province. Moradabad shows the enormous rise of 2,665, and next come Meerut with 850, Jhansi with 798, Aligarh with 751, Benares with 690, and Saharanpur with 616. The reasons given for the variations are, as usual, many. The increase in institutions is attributed to the fall in prices of food stuffs and of other necessities of life, and the consequent greater prosperity of all classes. It is also conceivable that some cases held back in 1921 on account of the non-co-operation movement may have been instituted during the year under review when non-co-operation activities definitely abated. The decline in Shahjahanpur and Original suits.

Budaun may be explained by unusually heavy rains and floods which resulted in the general destruction of *kharif* crops and left the inhabitants with less leisure and money to enable them to indulge in civil litigation. The total number of suits before the courts rose from 181,217 to 188,459 and disposals from 152,677 to 160,894. The pending file fell by 975, the best results being shown by Cawnpore and Aligarh.

Appeals.

101. The total number of Civil court appeals rose from 14,497 to 14,859. Of the total increase of 362, the courts of subordinate judges had 335, those of the district judges 27. The pending file rose from 5,687 to 5,833. The number of appeals pending over three months was, however, reduced from 3,643 to 3,161.

High Court.

102. The total number of appeals before the High Court fell from 6,352 to 5,806 and the pending file from 3,330 to 2,939.

Applications for the execution of decrees.

103. The total number of applications for the execution of decrees rose from 141,639 to 150,485. This was, of course, due to the increase in institutions of suits. The total number of disposals rose from 110,178 to 116,739. But even this proved insufficient to keep pace with the number of applications coming before the courts, and the pending file went up by 1,790. The percentage of fructuous applications throughout the judgeships was 47, one less than the figure which had prevailed for the past 4 years.

Village and Honorary Munsifs.

104. The number of courts was 180, fifty-eight less than in the previous year. Of these only 110 were working. In Gorakhpur 58 out of 80 courts again remained inactive. In Budaun with 27 courts there was more activity than anywhere else. The number of suits instituted fell from 11,072 to 8,794, and disposals from 10,857 to 8,669. The extension of the United Provinces Village Panchayat Act, VI of 1920 will lead more and more towards the abolition of these courts. Honorary munsifs decided 8,007 cases as compared with 7,772 in the previous year. The number of courts remained the same.

OUDH.

Original suits.

105. The total number of suits instituted during the year under review was 67,903, an increase of 3,722. The increase was shared by all the courts except those of honorary munsifs and munsifs with Small Cause Court powers. The number of suits for disposal rose from 79,802 to 81,980, and the number of cases decided from 68,567 to 70,689.

Appeals.

106. The number of appeals for disposal was 2,817 as against 2,695 in the previous year. Of these 1,691 were disposed of.

Judicial Commissioner's Court

107. The number of regular appeals for disposal in the Judicial Commissioner's Court was 759 as against 832 last year. Of these 423 were disposed of as against 603 in the previous year.

108. The number of applications before the courts rose from 62,969 to 66,601. Of these 57,173 applications were disposed of as against 53,875 in the past year. The result was that arrears went up further from 9,094 to 9,428. The percentage of successful applications fell from 27 to 22 while that of unsuccessful ones went up from 56 to 62. Applications for execution of decrees.

109. The number of village courts fell from 74 to 43. Of these 4 were ineffective. The number of cases before these courts was 1,721 as against 4,816 in the previous year. The fall is due to village panchayats. The number of cases decided was 1,303. Village and honorary munsifs.

110. Of the honorary munsifs four died during the year. The total number of cases disposed of was 4,878 as against 4,275 in the previous year.

KUMAUN.

110. In Kumaun the number of suits instituted rose from 5,770 to 6,715. The increase was in the Garhwal district and is reported to be due to the year being prosperous and uneventful. The residents had more time and means to indulge in litigation. The increase occurred chiefly in suits for money or movable property. The valuation of suits rose from Rs. 8,83,376 to Rs. 1,387,105. The number of suits for disposal rose from 7,078 to 7,916. Of these 6,658 were decided, leaving 1,258 pending at the close of the year. Suits.

111. There were 297 appeals for disposal as compared with 372 in the previous year. Of these 231 were disposed of, leaving 66 pending at the close of the year. Appeals.

115. The number of applications for execution of decrees rose from 3,126 to 3,546. Of these 2,989 were disposed of leaving 557 pending at the close of the year. The percentage of wholly or partly successful applications was 39 in Naini Tal, 32 in Almora and 63 in Garhwal. Execution of decrees.

24.—Registration.

(*For details see the report on Registration for the triennium ending the* 31*st December*, 1922, *and the tables under the head "Registration" in Statistics of British India.*)

113. The total number of documents registered decreased from 2,97,652 to 2,84,409. The decrease is noticeable under non-testamentary instruments, the registration of which is optional whether they relate to movable or immovable property. As regards immovable property a large number of documents have, owing to the rise in the value of land, been brought within the purview of the law enjoining compulsory registration. As regards documents relating to movables the decrease is more Registration.

marked and is attributed to the rise in fees, the growing reluctance on the part of money-lenders to make advances without the security of real property and the facilities afforded by the co-operative societies and Government *takavi* grants. The documents requiring compulsory registration decreased during the year 1922, but the average for the last triennium is better than that for the preceding period. Among the tenants it is noticed that perpetual or long-term leases are preferred to usufructuary mortgages.

Financial.

114. The total receipts rose from 12·62 lakhs to 12·76 lakhs. The increase is due to the enhancement of fees in 1922 and the rise in the value of property. Expenditure rose from 4·59 lakhs to 4·64 lakhs which again is due to the increase in the pay of sub-registrars.

Prosecutions.

115. There was no prosecution under the Registration Act during the year. There was one case of embezzlement of Government money by a sub-registrar who was prosecuted and convicted. Another was degraded for gross neglect of duty. Two registration muharrirs were prosecuted for having participated in the commission of forgery and are awaiting trial.

Inspections.

116. The total number of inspections was 476 as against 494 in the year previous.

25.—Municipal Administration.

Constitution.

117. The number of municipalities remained unchanged at 85. Elected chairmen presided over 74 municipal boards and nominated chairmen over the remaining 11. The general elections were held in March, 1923. In the normal course they would have been held a year earlier, but were postponed so that the electoral rolls might be prepared in accordance with the extended franchise introduced by Act IX of 1922. The elections were keenly fought, especially where there were candidates professing advanced political views. In some places caste or communal feelings played a prominent part. Allahabad distinguished itself by returning the first lady member. A good deal of new blood has been introduced and there are many indications of a growing interest on the part of the electorate.

Legislation.

118. The Act referred to in the preceding paragraph was introduced by a private member and passed during the year. The municipal electoral qualifications are now the same as those for the Legislative Council.

Income.

119. The municipal income exclusive of loans and advances rose by 15·22 lakhs, from 126·56 lakhs to 141·78 lakhs. With the exception of Miscellaneous, the increase was shared by all the principal heads of income.

120. Receipts from octroi rose by 4·70 lakhs and those from terminal tax and toll by 3·78 lakhs. The increase in octroi mainly due to the revision of schedules and the good harvest. The yield of terminal tax and toll rose from Rs. 12·33 and 4·61 lakhs to 14·86 and 5·85 lakhs respectively. In several boards the income from this source has been satisfactory but in others such as Agra and Dehra Dun it has been less than that of octroi when it was in force. The deficiency is mostly attributed to the evasion of terminal tax by the traders unloading goods at neighbouring stations outside municipal limits. The remedy has been found in imposing toll equal to terminal tax and by a careful adjustment of the schedules it is expected to meet the difficulties with which a change from one system of taxation to another is generally beset. **Octroi and terminal taxation receipts.**

121. The tax on circumstances and property has continued to grow in unpopularity. It is urged that it has failed to produce enough to meet the growing cost of municipal services ; evasion is certainly common. **Tax on circumstances and property.**

122. The total income under the head "Receipts from sources other than taxation" was 55·59 as against 50·27 lakhs in the previous year. The realisations under "Special Acts" increased from 1·98 to 2·12 lakhs. Pounds contributed Rs. 6,250 towards this increase. **Receipts from sources other than taxation.**

The revenue derived from municipal property apart from taxation rose from 28·05 to 29·95 lakhs. A noticeable increase of Rs. 92,000 occurred under Markets and Slaughter-houses, Rs. 40,000 under Rent of Lands and Rs. 39,000 under Sale of Lands. There was an improvement of Rs. 19,000 in the conservancy receipts. The interest on investments decreased by Rs. 29,000. Government subsidies increased from 14 to 20 lakhs. Miscellaneous receipts fell from 5·97 to 3·16 lakhs. This decrease calls for no comment owing to the fluctuating nature of the items concerned.

123. The total expenditure amounted to 154·64 lakhs as compared with 147·37 lakhs in the previous year. The rise of 9·23 lakhs under Lighting is mainly due to the expenditure on the hydro-electric scheme at *Naini Tal*. The recurring expenditure shows an increase of Rs. 38,000 under General Administration, Rs. 83,000 under Cost of Collection and Rs. 48,000 under Conservancy. **Expenditure.**

The increase in collection charges during the last five years is out of all proportion to the increase in the amount of the tax collected. Thus, while the taxes have increased by 29 per cent. the collection charges have risen by 57 per cent.

The percentage of cost of collection to the income derived from taxes is nine compared with seven in 1918-19.

Water supply.

124. The project for the reorganisation of the water supply in Lucknow at a total cost of 28·1 lakhs has been making steady progress and will soon be completed. In Farrukhabad the construction of a tube well for watering roads and flushing drains is reported to be nearing completion. Four new tube wells have been sunk at Allahabad but they are not expected to relieve the water works plant to any large extent and the difficult question of further improvement in the water supply has yet to be settled. There was no breakdown either at Cawnpore or Benares. The installation of water organisation in Fyzabad is making progress and is expected to be in working order next year. The need for supplementing the water supply at Dehra Dun is acute and has been engaging the attention of the board for a long time. The proposals for procuring a supply from river or springs have been investigated one after another, and the board has ultimately adopted a moderate scheme which it thinks will be enough for its requirements. The water works accounts are far from encouraging. There has been an improvement of Rs. 59,000 in the income from water (tax and sale) as compared with the preceding year. Still the deficit is enormous. The waste in Benares is appalling.

Drainage.

125. The drainage scheme of Moradabad was brought to completion, and a flushing scheme will soon be taken up and so will the sewage disposal scheme at Muttra. Much improvement seems to have been made in the drains at Dehra Dun. The preliminary proposals for the Hardwar drainage project have been approved by the board. Cawnpore and Allahabad expended Rs. 2,28,972 and Rs. 21,672, respectively on drainage works. At Cawnpore the Jajmau overflow arrangement at the junction with the old sewer was completed, thereby abolishing the principal factor in the pollution of the river. Negotiations are being carried on between the Allahabad Board and the Agricultural Institute for the disposal of the surplus sullage, which is discharged into the river.

Roads.

126. During the last five years the expenditure on roads has grown by about 15 per cent. from 9·21 to 10·62 lakhs. Still their condition is far from satisfactory in several places.

General.

127. The number of indebted municipalities in the province is 28 with a liability of 122·44 lakhs outstanding against them at the close of the year. Loan instalments aggregating Rs. 1·34 lakhs payable by the Allahabad board were suspended during the year, while the Benares municipal board made default in payment of a major portion of the instalments due from it. The financial embarrassment of the Agra, Cawnpore, and Benares municipalities was a cause of grave concern and necessitated an enquiry into their finances by officers deputed by Government. The finances of Allahabad, Farrukhabad and Etawah are

also precarious. In the Jhansi division the condition of the Lalitpur and Kunch boards is far from satisfactory. The finances of most of the boards in the Meerut division have improved owing to revision of taxes. The position of Mussoorie is so far secure though its commitments are heavy. The finances of Gorakhpur are sound ; on the other hand Azamgarh is drifting into bankruptcy. The new element which has been introduced at the general elections augurs well. It is early to predict what volume of steady work will be turned out by each board during the stage now entered on but as remarked by the Commissioner of Rohilkhand " the race will be won by those boards that first get their house into order financially, then embark on schemes of improvement, many of which are waiting to be taken up but had to be shelved for want of funds." The new element, which is chiefly connected with one school of political thought, has shown itself reasonable and by no means obstructive : at the same time there is a danger indicated by many of its actions that its energies will be at least partially diverted to political activities outside the legitimate work of a municipal board.

26.—District Boards.

Income.

128. The aggregate income of the boards fell from 170·52 lakhs to 156·60 lakhs. Several heads such as Police, Medical showed an improvement, but the net result was due to a large drop of 16·18 lakhs under Education. Under Police the increase was due to higher income from the pounds; under Medical to special grants from Government to meet the increase in pay for the Subordinate Medical Service. The decrease in Education was due to the fact that Government in making grants deducted the unspent balances of the grants made in the previous year.

Expenditure.

129. The total expenditure fell from 184·65 to 183·56 lakhs. The expenditure under Administration, Police, Medical and Education all went up, the last rising from 82·88 to 85·24 lakhs. This increase was balanced by a curtailment of 4·10 lakhs in expenditure on civil works.

Education.

130. The number of boards' schools rose from 13,731 to 13,969 and the total number of scholars from 807,193 to 846,621. The details as to increase in different grades of schools have been given in chapter VII of this report.

The percentage of male scholars to male population varies from 8·44 in Benares to 2·40 in Kheri ; that of female scholars to female population from 1·89 in Dehra Dun to ·10 in Bahraich, the percentage of total scholars to total population being 2·38 as against 2·26 in the previous year.

Medical.

131. As stated above the expenditure under the head rose owing to the increase in the pay of the Subordinate Medical Service. The increased expenditure during the year was met by Government grants; but to meet the expenditure during the coming year the boards will have to economise. Already the district board of Jhansi has closed the dispensaries at Garautha and Raipur and reduced the status of that at Mau. The district boardshave been given the discretion of abolishing unnecessary travelling dispensaries. The savings both to the boards and Government can then be utilised for meeting the increased cost of medical relief.

Sanitation.

132. The boards have not much to claim credit for under this head. Wells for chamars and sweepers were provided in Muzaffarnagar, but to meet such requirements in full the boards have no funds. What is worse is that the funds available are not spent in accordance with any definite programme. The only successful scheme in force is the Public Health Scheme described in section 47 of this report.

Vaccination and Vital Statistics.

133. See sections 48 and 44 of this report.

Roads.

134. The condition of roads in several places is reported as having gone from bad to worse, and in the present state of boards' finances there is little chance of any improvement. In Etawah and Rai Bareli the boards received voluntary subscriptions for metalling certain roads.

General.

135. The year under review was the last year of the old boards' existence. The new boards, non-official in their constitution, with full powers of taxation and thorough control over their agents, have come into being. Their activities, hampered with financial difficulties and likely to be misled into undesirable channels, are watched with interest and anxiety.

CHAPTER IV—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

27.—Agriculture.

(For details see the annual reports on the administration of the Department of Agriculture for the year ending the 30th June, 1923, on the administration of the Civil Veterinary Department for the year ending the 31st March, 1923, and on the working of co-operative societies for the year ending the 30th June, 1923.)

General.

136. There was no increase worth speaking of in the staff during the year.

Agricultural education.

137. The educational institutions attached to the department are the same as before, namely the Agricultural College at Cawnpore and the Agricultural School at Bulandshahr. As regards the former the recommendations of the Hopkins Committee that it should be affiliated to the University of Allahabad have been accepted. Practical steps necessary to give effect to those recommendations are under consideration.

The acquisition of 380 acres of land has been utilised for giving the students practical instruction in estate management and the economics of agriculture. The inadequacy of the staff has been removed. But there are still some deficiencies to be supplied before the college can be expected to impart the highest form of instruction and education in agriculture, such as the lack of suitable farm buildings and farm and dairy equipment. The admission of students at the college continues to increase, being 61 in 1922 as against 30, in 1914 when the college was reorganized.

The school at Bulandshahr is still in its infancy. The essential buildings have been completed, but sufficient residential accomodation was not available and as a result of this the admission of the second group of students was delayed.

Research and demonstration.

138. The cotton crop continues to present a complex problem. The Raya farm now produces a superior quality of cotton (K22), for which the local agents are now prepared to pay a premium. Its chief fault is weakness in germination, but endeavours are being made to overcome this. From the Aligarh white-flowered cotton, which has sometimes been severely condemned, a race has been isolated with improved lint but with the high ginning percentage and hardy habits of the original stock

and this will be distributed as seed accumulates. In the central tracts the cultivation of Jn. 1 continues to expand, while as the result of the cotton survey, several promising races have been isolated. Material for their improvement is, therefore, available, but much depends on the development of trade and economic conditions.

With regard to sugarcane it has been demonstrated that, given capital and water, yield can be more than doubled. Tests at the Sugar Research Station at Shahjahanpur show that the yield can be as much as 1,000 maunds per acre. The suitability of these varieties to other areas is being tested on the experimental farms. The question of power for the crushing mills and the lift of water are still under consideration. With a view to economy in fuel the possibility of having more efficient furnaces is also being investigated.

Little experimental work was done on wheat. Work on the rice crop of the province has recently been undertaken. With regard to the oil crop a preliminary survey of the major oil crops has been taken in hand. Following the usual lines pure strains will be isolated and the quality of these tested.

Distribution of seed.

139. Twenty one thousand, three hundred and sixty six maunds of wheat seed and 12,019 of sugarcane were distributed during the year.

Sale of implements and manure.

140. A considerable amount of energy has been devoted to the design of implements suited to the small cultivator and a new implement known as the Kharnashak has been developed. Its usefulness and simplicity are making it popular with the cultivators. The total number of implements distributed to cultivators was 4,262 and the amount of manure 2,170½ maunds.

Agricultural engineering.

141. The energies of the engineering section have developed more and more in the direction of meeting the demand for wells. To meet this demand the section has been much expanded and there are now four circles with headquarters at Cawnpore, Meerut, Hardoi and Partabgarh respectively, each in charge of an assistant agricultural engineer. The methods of conducting the business have been thoroughly revised so as to give the zamindars the full benefit of the department's advice and services. Machinery is now being installed in the new workshop and with the advance recently arranged by Government it will be possible to keep a sufficient stock of essential materials and spares. During the year 16 installations have been erected and completed, with four pumping stations. Eighteen are now under construction. The demand for tube wells is well maintained.

The number of borings made during the year was 624, of which 457 were successful.

142. A scheme for the re-corgnization of the two vernacular periodicals, the Mufid-ul-Mazarin and the Kisan Upkarak, has been drawn up and approved by the Board of Agriculture; it will be carried into effect when better financial conditions prevail. During the year the department published several important reports. Among these may be mentioned the "Trend of Agricultural Development in the United Provinces" and the "Cattle Problem of the United Provinces" by Dr. H. M. Leake, M.A., SC.D., F.L.S. Publications.

CIVIL VETERINARY DEPARTMENT.

143. The cost of training at the Bengal Veterinary College having risen, the two new students selected for training were sent to the Punjab Veterinary College. Two students already under training in Bengal and five in the Punjab passed their examination and are now awaiting appointment. Education.

144. The number of deaths from contagious diseases rose from 11,029 to 14,254. Deaths from rinderpest rose from 5,976 to 7,266, those from hæmorrhagic septicæmia from 1,791 to 3,266. Deaths from black quarter rose from 443 to 605, and deaths from foot-and-mouth disease were 1,318 as against 1,310 last year. There were 54 cases of surra, two of glanders and one of dourine. The number of veterinary hospitals and dispensaries was 121, and the total number of cases treated rose from 143,973 to 158,998. Disease.

145. Cattle-breeding operations were transferred to the Agricultural department during the year. Breeding.

At the close of the year there were 253 sheep on the register. Extensive surveys in practically all the districts have been carried out, and detailed records of native sheep-breeding are available. Experiment has demonstrated that by the judicious introduction of good wool-bearing blood and crossing it with herds of selected indigenous ewes it is possible to grow an improved quality of wool and to increase considerably the annual production. The operations have been finally closed, with effect from 1st April, 1923 for want of funds.

There were 73 horse and pony stallions at the beginning of the year. Six were purchased; 2 died and 10 were sold or destroyed, thus leaving a balance of 67 at the end of the year. Fifty-six were employed at stud work, covering 2,964 mares. The decrease in coverings was due to the closing of stands in Moradabad, Pilibhit, Jaunpur and Gonda.

The number of donkey stallions fell from 18 to 12 and the number of mares covered from 755 to 626. The demand for the services of donkey stallions is on the increase, but the number available is limited and a fresh supply can only be had from abroad.

146. The strength of the subordinate establishment remained the same as last year. The cost of the department fell from Rs. 4,05,594 to Rs. 3,62,597. Establishment.

Co-operative Societies.

General.

147. Owing to heavy and incessant rainfall the full normal *kharif* area could not be sown, and the outturn was rather poor. The *rabi* crop was fair but the fall in the price of food grains had an adverse effect upon the cultivator. The prices of cloth and other necessaries of life fell but were still too high for the humble resources of the agriculturist. In spite of these factors there was some improvement in the general position of co-operative societies.

Central societies.

148. The total number of central societies working at the close of the year was as follows:—

District banks	... 32
Central banks	... 30
Central banking unions	... 8
Guaranteeing unions	... 9
Non-credit central societies ...	... 4
Total	... 83

The working capital increased by Rs. 6·18 lakhs to 76·82 lakhs; share capital, deposits from individuals, and the reserve and other funds increased respectively by Rs. 1,58,928, Rs. 4,37,764, and Rs. 85,408. Inter-transactions between central banks were reduced—a fact which indicates the growing independence of central banks and their ability to raise capital for their own requirements locally. Loans due from individual members decreased from Rs. 34,778 to Rs. 24,766. The arrears against working societies increased by 2·18 lakhs, but those against societies in liquidation decreased by ·68 lakh. The proportion of arrears to total outstandings was 30·7 per cent., but in the case of primary societies alone it was 33·1 per cent.

Rural societies.

149. The number of agricultural societies increased from 4,858 to 5,209; membership increased by 7,995 to 124,840, and the aggregate working capital by Rs. 9,23,834 to Rs. 73,94,503. The share capital and the undistributed profits of previous years increased by Rs. 2,70,553 to Rs. 27,31,097, being 37 per cent. of the working capital. As regards credit societies, the advances were larger by 1·71 lakhs, and realizations smaller by ·02 lakh in principal but larger by ·19 lakh in interest. Arrears, however, increased by 2·56 lakhs, and amounted to 30 per cent. of the total outstandings as compared with 29·4 in the previous year.

There was no change in the number of non-credit agricultural societies, which remained stationary at 10. The Katra Co-operative Dairy, Allahabad, continued to do useful work. The Lucknow and Benares dairies failed.

Urban societies.

150. The number of non-agricultural credit societies of limited liability rose from 42 to 45; the number of their members rose

by 828 to 7,074, and their working capital from Rs. 6,13,448 to Rs. 8,01,440. The profits increased from Rs. 25,916 to Rs. 38,203. The repayments of advances were better by Rs. 2,52,842 and amounted to Rs. 7,56,507.

The number of societies of unlimited liability increased from 129 to 147, their membership by 501 to 3,119, working capital by Rs. 26,543 to Rs. 2,04,535 and profits by Rs. 831 to Rs. 5,845. Advances and repayments were also better. The arrears fell from Rs. 53,886 to Rs. 47,226.

Non-agricultural non-credit societies fell from 28 to 25.

The Christian Housing Society, Cawnpore, has acquired land but is waiting for sanction to a loan from Government to enable it to start building operations. Other housing societies have done little yet that is tangible. Co-operative Stores, with the exception of the Muslim University Store, Aligarh, have not been very successful.

28.—Weather and Crops.

(*For details see the annual season and crop report for the year ending 30th June*, 1923.)

Character of the season.

151. The rainfall during the year was above the normal throughout the provinces. In June it was uneven and badly distributed, but on the whole sufficient to give a start to *kharif* sowings. In July it was above the normal throughout the provinces except in parts of the Meerut and Agra divisions. In August again it was above the normal except in Muttra, Mainpuri, Jhansi, Benares, Ghazipur, Ballia and Azamgarh. September was also a month of abnormally heavy rainfall, except towards the end when the monsoon practically withdrew. October was practically rainless.

Owing to heavy and incessant rains the full normal *kharif* area could not be sown, and the crops failed over about 5 per cent. of the area cropped. The outturn was also inferior to that of last year, except in the case of sugarcane and late rice. Cotton was injured by the rain in almost all the cotton-growing districts, though it improved during the fine weather of October. The month of November was practically rainless. As, however, there was ample moisture in the soil, *rabi* sowings were carried on under favourable conditions. There were light showers during the last three weeks of December, which proved beneficial to the standing crops. There was light rainfall in the second and third weeks of January, but in the last three weeks of February the rainfall was far above the normal everywhere except in Bundelkhand. The months of March and April were practically rainless and seasonable for harvesting operations. The climatic conditions were, on the whole, very favourable to the *rabi* harvest.

Cultivated area.

152. The cultivated area was in the neighbourhood of the figures accepted as the normal, being short of it only by 58,023 acres or $\frac{1}{4}$th per cent. The greatest deviations from the normal were found on the one hand in the districts of Budaun and Pilibhit, where, owing to excessive rainfall, the low-lying land suffered and on the other in the Hamirpur, Jalaun and Jhansi districts, where the usually dry tracts were much benefited by the heavy rains. The area under *kharif* was 7·2 per cent. below the normal. The area under *rabi*, however, rose by 5·6 per cent. above the normal and was the largest during the last five years. The largest increase was in the Bundelkhand districts of Banda and Jalaun. The decrease in the *kharif* area was shared by all crops except rice and sugarcane. In *rabi* the increase was in wheat, gram and poppy.

Irrigation.

153. The rainfall in the year being ample as in the preceding year, the figures for the total irrigated area for the two years differ but slightly, being 10,274,000 and 10,269,000 acres. The irrigated area in all amounted to 28 per cent. of the total cultivated area, as in the previous year. Of the total wet area 50 per cent. was irrigated from wells, 25 per cent. from canals and as much more from other sources. The number of masonry wells in use fell from 565,207 to 559,752 and of non-masonry wells from 697,985 to 582,569. The number of masonry wells constructed during the year was 12,617 as against 14,949.

Outturn.

154. Owing to excessive rains, as has been noted, the outturn of *kharif* crops was not good. Sugarcane was the best, but in terms of a normal yield of 100 the outturn was only 90. In the same terms the outturn of late rice was 85; that of *juar* and *bajra*, 80; of early rice and *til*, 75; of cotton, 70 and of *mandua* and maize, 65. Of the *rabi* crops, gram yielded 100; barley, 95, linseed, rapeseed and opium, 90, and wheat, 85. Except barley and wheat, which had the same outturn as last year, the outturn of each of the remaining *rabi* crops was better than in the previous year.

Prices.

155. There was a remarkable fall in prices during the year. Wheat fell from 5·50 to 7·50 seers per rupee; barley, from 8·75 to 14·00; gram, from 7·25 to 14·50; *juar*, from 8·00 to 14·00; rice (common), from 4·75 to 5·75. The fall was steady throughout the period June 22 to June 23, except in the case of rice, which, during the month of January, came down to 6·50.

29.—Horticulture.

(For details see the annual report on the working and the administration of the United Provinces Government Gardens for the year 1922-23.*)*

Development.

156. The scheme outlined in the Government resolution of 11th March, 1922, on the re-organization of the system of

management of the public gardens and parks of the province came into force on 1st April, 1922. The administration of all gardens has been centralised in the hands of the Director of Agriculture, and a new officer, the Deputy Director of Gardens, has been appointed; he is immediately responsible for all the major public gardens in the province. The gardens are in theory divided into two classes: the ornamental and commercial, but in practice it has been found that the ornamental and commercial sides are so connected that the distinction is largely formal. In the commercial gardens (of Saharanpur, Chaubattia and Sitauli) development consisted in planting new trees. At Chaubattia a jam-making plant has begun work; at Lucknow nearly 400 fruit trees were planted and the ground was prepared for the planting of selected guavas and limes. At the Taj gardens in Agra the colour scheme and general disposition of the grounds as laid down by the archæological authorities have been minutely adhered to and gradually developed. The systematic pruning of cypress trees to make them conform to the general setting of the gardens has been satisfactorily carried out. At Sikandra, in pursuance of the archæologial programme, a new shrubbery was made in the vicinity of the rest house, and two straight approaches on the north and east completed, the house being now exactly in the centre of the four approaches.

A scheme for the training of Indians for the posts of garden superintendents and overseers is now under the consideration of Government.

157. Receipts from all sources amounted to Rs. 1,11,060 and expenditure (including the cost of Deputy Director of Gardens and his establishment) to Rs. 2,79,691. The net charge, therefore, came to Rs. 1,68,631, compared with Rs. 2,46,519 in 1921-1922. Financial result

30.—Forests.

(For details see the annual progress report on forest administration for the year ending 31st March, 1923)

158. The area under the control of the department shows a decrease of 30 square miles; 4, by transfer of land to Irrigation department for Sarda canal work and 26, by disforestation in accordance with the recommendations of the Kumaun Grievances Committee. The total length of all the boundaries was 14,485 miles, of which 2,620 are natural. The changes were mainly in the Kumaun circle and were again due to the recommendations of the Kumaun Grievances Committee. Area and demarcation.

159. The receipts for the year amounted to 83·72 lakhs as compared with 86·46 lakhs in the previous year. Expenditure amounted to 60·82 as compared with 74·02 in the previous year. Revenue.

The net revenue, therefore, was 22·90 or 10·46 lakhs better than last year.

Expenditure.

160. The decrease in expenditure was due to curtailment of activities in the Utilization circle and to reduced departmental operations in Kumaun. Of the total decrease of 13·20 lakhs the Utilization circle was responsible for 9·8 lakhs. This was due to a smaller resin crop than the average. In Kumaun reduced departmental operations and less resin-tapping resulted in a decrease of 2·57. A decrease of ·63 lakh occurred in the Working Plan circle, due generally to a less area being afforested, fewer buildings constructed, and less live-stock purchased.

Outturn.

161. The outturn of timber was 9·73 million cubic feet, valued at 46·04 lakhs. Fuel was produced to the value of 10·67 lakhs, bamboos 1·48, and minor produce to the value of 12·59 lakhs. The only noticeable decrease in last year's figures is under deodar, pines, and fir. This occurred in Chakrata division and was due to many coupes commanding no sale owing to a bad market.

Breaches of forest rules.

162. The total number of new cases of breaches of forest rules numbered 4,286 as against 4,100, the average of the preceding three years. There was a satisfactory decrease in cases of fire and unauthorised fellings. Cases of unauthorised grazing increased considerably and this was due to non-co-operation activities leading to a regrettable disregard of law and order. As a preventive measure in North Kheri a ranger with a special staff was deputed to check this sort of offence. The total number of cases taken to court was 221, of which 118 resulted in convictions and 59 were pending at the close of the year. Cases disposed of under section 67 of the Indian Forest Act totalled 4,017, and 109 were pending at the close of the year. In the cases taken into courts 348 persons were convicted and 44 acquitted. In cases compounded under section 67 in which compensation was taken, 8,235 persons were involved. The compensation amounted to about Rs. 8-11-3 per case and Rs. 3-10-0 per person.

Protection from fire.

163. The total area in which fire protection was attempted was 3,656 square miles, or approximately half of the area of reserves. The cost per square mile protected fell from Rs. 55 to Rs. 32 and the area burnt from 863 square miles to 137 square miles. The decrease in the cost of protection is due to less expenditure in putting out fires and a reduction in the number of fire watchers. The telephone system in North Kheri was further extended and found to be very useful.

Grazing.

164. The number of cattle grazed in the forests was 876,682 as compared with 859,200 in the year previous. The demand on the grazing area will become more intense as time goes on and cultivation extends. This makes it impossible to consider applications for grants of land for cultivation. The number

of Bhutia animals for which passes were issued was 128,713 and the revenue realised Rs. 5,553.

Communications and buildings.

165. The total expenditure incurred on new roads and repairs was 2·04 lakhs, compared with 2·30 lakhs in the previous year. New work consisted of 217 miles of cart roads and pathways. The Motichur valley tramway in Dehra Dun was nearly completed. Out of a total cost of Rs. 40,600, Rs. 6,100 was charged on this work during the year. The line has already yielded a net profit of Rs. 7,054 and should be both useful and remunerative. A wet slide for sleeper extraction was constructed in the Chakrata division at a cost of Rs. 10,500. It has brought in a direct revenue of over Rs. 6,000 in one season's working and will serve for several years to come. A tramway scheme for the exploitation of the northern forests of Gorakhpur, involving expenditure of Rs. 4,30,000, is ready and awaiting allotment of funds.

The expenditure on buildings in all circles was Rs. 1,63,919 on new works and Rs. 1,10,949 on repairs. The former includes Rs. 61,224 spent in the Utilization circle. The abolition of *utar* in Kumaun has rendered the touring of officers extremely difficult and expensive. The difficulty is being met by providing rest-houses with an adequate supply of furniture. Eighteen new rest-houses were either partly or wholly built at a cost of Rs. 25,716 during the year.

The Wood-Technology and the Central Wood-Working Institute, Bareilly.

General.

166. During the year the new hostel, the electric installation, and the new tube well were completed. With the erection of a universal wood-worker fitted for carrying out a large range of machining operations, and driven by a small petrol engine, the institute stands well fitted out. On the research side, kiln seasoning of timber continued to be the main item. The second kiln was completed and considerable experimental work was done. The institute has now been made over to the department of Industries.

The Sawmill and Turnery.

167. The uncertainty of the future of the mill prevented any development of business. For the same reason no great alterations were made in the building or plant. It has now been made over to a syndicate, who will float it as a limited company in which shares will be held by Government.

The Rosin and Turpentine Factory.

168. The new storage shed was used and found advantageous in reducing losses by leakage of stock. More crude resin was worked upon during the year under report and the results

showed improvements in the efficiency of the plant. This factory has been treated in the same way as the sawmill and turnery.

31.—Mines and Quarries.

(For details see the tables under "Mineral Production" in Part I, Statistics of British India.)

Mines.

169. The district of Garhwal reported traces of gold in the Sona nadi, from which 7 tolas were recovered, at a cost of Rs. 150 on labour. Some traces of mica were found in a mine in Hamirpur district. Further investigation will have to be made before anything definite can be said about gold deposits in that district.

Quarries.

170. The building-stone business is evidently expanding. The total quantity of stone quarried during the year under report in the districts of Mirzapur, Banda, Agra, Allahabad, Saharanpur and Jhansi advanced by well over 50 per cent. on the last quinquennial average of the province. In Kulpahar (Hamirpur) some quarries were worked for soap-stone, of which small things, such as toys, dishes and vases are made. Kankar continues the commonest source of lime in these provinces, but it is usually of poor quality and with the fall in the price of Portland cement, the use of lime as mortar may decline.

32.—Manufactures.

(For details see the report of the Director of Industries for the year 1922-23.)

Cotton.

171. The number of cotton ginning and pressing mills remained at 102, giving employment to 9,374 operatives. Cotton mills numbered 20; the number of looms and spindles worked was 2,417 and 347,544 respectively, and the number of operatives employed 20,738.

Sugar factories.

172. The number of sugar factories was 14, giving employment to 3,616 men. The Pioneer Sugar Works, Unao, went into liquidation. Important extensions and improvements took place in the existing factories and refineries. The most promising factory is the Sri Maha Lakshmi Sugar Corporation of Kheri which has recently been started with an authorised capital of 50 lakhs.

Tanneries.

173. The number of leather works and tanneries was 10, employing 3,325 operatives.

Miscellaneous

174. There were three glass factories, as before. The glass works at Bahjoi erected a plant for the manufacture of sheet glass. There are several small glass factories in the districts of

Etawah, Mainpuri and Agra, where block-glass and bangles are manufactured. The outturn of block-glass in the factories at Firozabad alone was 4,300 tons, which was worth about Rs. 4,65,000. There was one jute mill working, giving employment to 90 operatives.

There were 16 oil mills, employing 1,613 operatives. Flour mills rose in number from six to seven giving employment to 806 operatives. There were three iron, brass and steel foundries, employing 386 operatives. Government and Local Fund Factories, including Railway Workshops, numbered 31, giving employment to 23,497 workmen. Moradabad brassware is growing more popular in the foreign markets to which it is exported through the Emporium.

The silk-weaving industry has shown several indications of improvement. Benares alone employs about 40,000 workmen. Other good centres are Mau and Mubarakpur. There are hand-loom factories at Sandila, Hapur, Muzaffarnagar and Bara Banki. The manufacture of silk cloth by hand-loom being unequal to the ever-increasing demand, power-loom factories are springing up. The most urgent necessity for the progress of this industry is the supply of yarn on the co-operative system.

There were two woollen factories, employing about 3,000 persons. The blanket-weaving factories at Muzaffarnagar and other places are finding it difficult to compete with mill products. The woollen carpets of Agra and Mirzapur have, however, managed to compete successfully with foreign carpets.

33.—Trade.

175. No figures are available. There was general depression in trade throughout the year. Owing to excellent crops the prices of food grains declined, causing serious loss to grain-dealers. The trade in country sugar also suffered owing to large imports of foreign sugar. The cotton market was dull, which proved unfavourable to spinning mills and ginning and pressing factories. The depression in the hide trade continued.

Foreign Trade.

176. There was a further decline in trade with Tibet. Imports fell by 3,029 maunds in weight and Rs. 36,998 in value. Exports fell by 1,416 maunds in weight and Rs. 60,475 in value. The import of borax and wool increased, but that of salt fell. In exports the fall under food grains was inappreciable, but there was a considerable decrease under cotton goods and sugar. Metals too showed a decline in demand. The export of gold and coral, however, increased from Rs. 1,810 and Rs. 625 to Rs. 5,300 and Rs. 8,000, respectively. Tibet

Nepal.

177. The total trade with Nepal fell from 2,660,332 maunds to 2,587,204 maunds in weight, and from Rs. 2,58,35,205 to Rs. 2,54,51,999 in value. Imports showed a decrease from 22,75,943 maunds to 2,159,142 maunds in weight, and from Rs. 1,91,53,493 to Rs. 1,80,59,156 in value. Exports, however, rose from 384,389 maunds to 428,062 maunds in weight and from Rs. 66,81,712 to Rs. 73,92,843 in value. The decrease in the imports is shared by Almora, Pilibhit, Kheri and Bahraich only, the remaining four frontier districts, viz., Naini Tal, Gonda, Basti and Gorakhpur, having increased their imports by 83,351 maunds. The net reduction is mainly due to a drop in the import of food grains owing to the paddy crop in Nepal having been seriously damaged by insect pests. The improvement in the exports to Nepal is shared by all the registering districts, except Naini Tal and Pilibhit. The increase occurs under apparel, salt, petroleum, mahua and metals. The export of sugar and spices declined.

34.—Buildings and Roads.

(*For details see the annual administration report of the Public Works department, Buildings and Roads branch, for the year ending the* 31*st March*, 1923.)

Revenue and expenditure.

178. The revenue realized during the year by the Buildings and Roads branch of the Public Works department amounted to Rs. 5·84 lakhs, of which Rs. 5·30 lakhs was provincial. The expenditure amounted to Rs. 24 lakhs, of which Rs. 1·02 lakhs was Central. Of Rs. 22·98, the amount spent on provincial works under the head "Civil Buildings," Rs. 16·13 related to "Transferred" heads, Rs. ·11 lakh to "Reserved" heads and Rs. 6·73 lakhs to heads not chargeable to revenue.

Imperial buildings.

179. Under the head Imperial buildings the work at the Bacteriological Laboratory at Mukhtesar was continued. An instrument and battery room was constructed at the Government Telegraph office at Agra at a cost of Rs. 77,793. In Lucknow a sum of Rs. 1,60,000 was made over to the Improvement Trust for the construction of the new Prince of Wales' Theatre, which is to be transferred to the owner of the existing Cinema in exchange for the present theatre the site of which will be required for the construction of the new Post and Telegraph office at Lucknow. Electric lights and fans were installed in the Opium Factory at Ghazipur, at a cost of Rs. 26,274. The improvements in the grounds of the Mausoleum at Sikandra in Agra district were completed at a cost of Rs. 24,145.

Council Chamber.

180. The foundation stone of the new Council Chamber was laid by Sir Harcourt Butler on the 15th December, 1922, and

work to the extent of Rs. 3,28,701 was carried out during the year. A further sum of Rs. 81,644 was paid as fees for the preparation of the design and detailed estimates. The work is being carried out, independently of the Public Works department, by Messrs. Martin and Company of Calcutta, and under the direct supervision of Mr. Lanchester, the architect of the building.

181. The amount devoted to educational buildings was a little more than 4¾ lakhs, or about Rs. 3¾ lakhs less than the expenditure in the previous year. Of the educational buildings completed, or on which good progress was made during the year, the most important were— Provincial buildings.

(*a*) the Intermediate College and Normal school at Jhansi,

(*b*) eight class rooms in the Government High School, Gonda,

(*c*) a normal school at Muzaffarnagar, and

(*d*) the High School in Banda.

Several hostels and boarding-houses were also completed or begun during the year. A tube well was also constructed in connection with the High School in Banda. The residences for the President of the Legislative Council, for three Secretaries, and for two Deputy Secretaries to Government in Lucknow were completed during the year. The Imperial Hotel at Lucknow was acquired at a cost of Rs. 1,10,000 for the accommodation, during sessions, of the non-official members of the Legislative Council. The Judge's residence at Bulandshahr was completed at a cost of Rs. 39,899, the expenditure during the year amounting to Rs. 16,184. The construction of a court house in the same district was continued. The total expenditure on the various departments was as follows :—

	Rs.
Administration of Justice	1,33,373
Jails and convict settlements	57,764
Police	2,59,260
Medical	1,29,672
Public Works department	90,677

182. The total expenditure on communications fell from Rs. 38·36 lakhs to nearly Rs. 37 lakhs. The total length of metalled roads in the province maintained by the department was 7,416, exclusive of 31 miles maintained by local agency. A length of 1,495 miles of unmetalled roads was under departmental control and 26,108 under that of local bodies. Fair progress was made on the raising and metalling of the Cawnpore-Etawah road, and on the road from Kolukhet to Bhatta on the Dehra Dun-Mussoorie cart road. A new steel girder bridge on the Kathgodam-Ranikhet road, and a reinforced concrete bridge over the Kosi river near Hawalbagh were constructed during the year, and two major bridges on the Lucknow-Bareilly road were Communications.

taken in hand. The approaches to the Ganges ferry at Kachlaghat in the Budaun district were much improved, and the metalling of the Gonda-Bahraich road was continued.

Navigation. 183. Three hundred and twenty-one miles of the Ganges river were maintained in navigable condition in the Allahabad, Mirzapur, Benares, Ghazipur and Ballia districts. Besides this, 94 miles of the Gogra river were kept open for navigation in the Ballia and Azamgarh districts.

Electric light and power. 184. Twenty-four Government buildings were connected to the town supplies in different places. A number of applications were received and examined, but no electric lighting schemes materialized during the year.

Sanitary works. 185. A sum of Rs. 28,68,099 was spent on the construction of original works, and open water-works were maintained at a cost of Rs. 15,97,961. Excellent progress was made during the year on the Naini Tal Hydro-Electric and Water-Supply scheme, and current was first supplied to the public on the 8th of August, 1922. The supply remained uninterrupted. Good progress was made on the Lucknow water-supply re-organization and the usual temporary water supply was provided at the Allahabad Magh Mela. The pumping station for the Lucknow sewage scheme was handed over to the municipal board during the year. Certain extensions to the drainage work at Muttra were started; and the Shahganj drainage system at Agra was completed. Good progress was also made on the drainage works in Mussoorie and Dehra Dun and on the construction of the infectious diseases hospital at Muttra.

Arboriculture. 186. The income from, and the expenditure on, arboriculture amounted to Rs. 57,487 and Rs. 79,187, respectively.

Two thousand three hundred and fifty-four miles of avenue were maintained during the year and about 30 miles were planted with new trees.

Private works. 187. Private individuals constructed works of public utility at a total cost of Rs. 1,05,600. The works were a bridge in the Bijnor district, temples, dharamshalas, tanks and wells.

General. 188. A number of large schemes were prepared in the Consulting Architect's office; chief of these were the Postal Workshop at Aligarh, the Bareilly Kotwali and the Muttra museum. Projects were also submitted for the new record room for the Judge's Court, Basti, the new treasury at Meerut and the Principal's residence, Intermediate College at Jhansi.

Preliminary projects were also prepared and submitted for the civil courts at Rae Bareli, Muzaffarnagar and Shahjahanpur, the Veterinary College at Lucknow, the Intermediate College at Almora, the Circuit House at Fyzabad and the Agra Kotwali. A committee was appointed during the year to consider the

lines upon which the department should be re-organized. The report of the Committee has been received and is being considered by the Government. The department was relieved of the responsibility for the maintenance of several buildings belonging to other departments and also of the execution of petty original works. The Cawnpore division was relieved by the transfer of Etawah to the first circle and Unao to the second circle of provincial works and by the creation of a temporary construction sub-division. The Meerut and Bulandshahr districts were again separated, but Bahraich was combined with Gonda; and Sultanpur with Partabgarh. The creation of the proposed subordinate engineering service was postponed owing to financial stringency.

35.—Canals.

Outlay on construction.

189. The direct and indirect capital outlay during the year aggregated Rs. 63·62, lakhs of which 61·01 lakhs were spent on productive works and the balance on works of unproductive nature. As in the previous year, the greater part of the expenditure under the former class was incurred on the Sarda Kichha Feeder and the Sarda Oudh canal, and that under the latter on the Batkhara, Jaiwanti, Aunjhar and Raipura tanks in Bundelkhand, the Barwar lake and canal in the Jhansi district, the Kitham reservoir on the Agra canal and the Ghaziuddin Hyder canal in Lucknow.

Works proposed.

190. The final estimate for a third reservoir on the Betwa river was completed during the year. The Pawa-Bilkhi project, Dhasan canal Division, will be taken up after the estimates for Belasagar and Raipura tanks have been revised. The Ohen canal project, Ken canal Division, has been shelved. Other schemes under consideration are the Dadri bund, Bundhi surveys, the extension of Moth, Randhar, and Tarsaur minors.

Surveys

191. No hydro-electric surveys were undertaken during the year, but an expenditure of about Rs. 6,500 was incurred in finishing those in progress, and in tabulating the data of others which had been completed.

Financial results.

192. The gross revenue, direct and indirect from open canals worked out to Rs. 136·87 and the net revenue to Rs. 78·50 as compared with Rs. 145·58 and Rs. 87·92, respectively, in the preceding year. The drop in the net revenue is due to a fall in gross receipts as a result of favourable seasons as well as to a rise of ·71 lakh in the cost of establishment. The gross revenue realized and the total working expenses under the head of productive works amounted to Rs. 129·77 and Rs. 50·15 lakhs as against Rs. 136·45 and and Rs. 49·73 lakhs, respectively. The net revenue fell from Rs. 86·71 lakhs to Rs. 79·61 and the net profit after deduction of interest charges to Rs. 41·01 lakhs as compared with

Rs. 50·92 during 1921-22, thus yielding a return of Rs. 3·48 per cent. on the total capital outlay under this head as against Rs. 4·56 per cent. during the preceding year. Under the head unproductive works, the gross receipts decreased from Rs. 9·13 to Rs. 7·10 lakhs, the working expenses rose from Rs. 7·92 to Rs. 8·22 lakhs, giving a net revenue of minus Rs. 1·11 or Rs. 2·32 lakhs less than in the previous year.

Assessments.

193. The total assessed revenue, direct and indirect, amounted to Rs. 137·17 as compared with Rs. 131·82 lakhs in the previous year, the average rate rising from Rs. 4·90 to Rs. 5·15 per acre. The rise during the year is in the main attributable to an increase in the irrigated area under sugarcane. The occupier's rate per acre rose to Rs. 3·95 as compared with Rs. 3·80 in the preceding year.

Mileage of canals.

194. The total length of channels in operation at the close of the year was 16,108 miles as compared with 16,138 in the year previous. The reduction of 30 miles is mainly due to the abandonment of the Solani Khadir drains in the Northern division, Ganges canal.

36.—Irrigation.

Irrigated area.

195. The year opened with normal conditions. The months of April, May and June were hot and dry with occasional dust-storms till the break of the monsoon in the last week of June, when good general rain fell. By the third week of July the monsoon became more active, and continued so with occasional breaks till the end of September when it finally withdrew. October and November were practically rainless, but good showers were received towards the end of December and heavy rain in February.

The demand of water for *kharif* irrigation was not intense except in the beginning. For *rabi* the demand commenced early in November, became full by the end of that month, remained strong in December, slackened in January and ceased with the good showers received in February. Supplies in the rivers were generally ample.

The year was a very favourable one from the agricultural point of view, and the cultivators secured good harvests.

The total area irrigated during the year aggregated 2,663,578 acres (*kharif* 1,062,786 and *rabi* 1,600,792) or 24,996 acres less than in the year 1921-22. This decrease, which occurred under rice, indigo, cotton, wheat, barley, gram and miscellaneous *kharif* and *rabi* crops, is attributable to the favourable nature of the monsoon and timely winter rains. The total area not matured rose from 11,114 in 1921-22 to 13,819 acres, due to the damage done to crops by the excessive monsoon rainfall, and by

hailstorms during February in the Cawnpore division, Lower Ganges canal.

Value of crops.

196. The estimated value of crops raised with the aid of state irrigation amounted to Rs. 16,75,51,530 as compared with Rs. 24,81,12,493 in the year previous. This large decrease was principally due to the very considerable fall in prices of food grains during the year under report. The percentages of *kharif* and *rabi* areas irrigated during the year were 40, and 60, respectively, as compared with 37·96 and 62·04 during 1921-22.

CHAPTER V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE.

37.—Excise.

(For details see the annual report on the Excise administration for the year ending 31st March, 1923.)

Receipts.

197. The year opened with no improvement in the economic condition of the consuming classes. The level of prices began to fall, but even then the margin available, in a humble budget, for expenditure on excisable luxuries, was very small. The export trade was slack, traders in staple products suffered heavy losses, and credit was subject to increasing stringency. The fall in prices adversely affected the agricultural classes. As a result consumption decreased and the real receipts fell from Rs. 148·59 lakhs to Rs. 134·35 lakhs. Of a total decrease of Rs. 14·24 lakhs, country spirit was responsible for 13·22, opium for 1·14 and foreign liquor for Rs. 0·42 lakh. On the other hand the receipts for tari and hemp drugs showed increase of Rs. 0·50 and Rs. 0·03 lakh respectively.

Collections.

198. The total realizable demand for the year was Rs. 147·83 lakhs. Of this sum, Rs. 141·13 lakhs or over 95 per cent. were collected compared with 91·8 per cent. in the previous year. The balance outstanding at the close of the year amounted to Rs. 5,91,745. Of this sum, Rs. 4,57,129 has since been realized.

Country spirit.

199. The actual receipts from country spirit decreased from Rs. 77·34 lakhs to Rs. 64·03 lakhs. Fees yielded Rs. 16·15 as compared with Rs. 27·58 and duty Rs. 47·88 lakhs as against 49·76 lakhs. Consumption fell from 576,881 to 473,077 proof gallons. The decrease in revenue naturally follows the decrease in consumption. With regard to decrease in consumption various reasons have been given. These are the rise in duty, curtailment of consumption at marriages and festivals due to the efforts of panchayats, the effect of the *shuddhi* movement, the abolition of a number of shops, and the restrictions recently imposed regarding the early closing of shops.

Outstill areas.

200. The total number of shops under the outstill and farming system was reduced from 152 to 149. The income rose from Rs. 1·36 lakhs to Rs. 1·45 lakhs, chiefly in Gonda, Garhwal, Gorakhpur and Mirzapur.

Hemp drugs.

201. The revenue under this head rose from Rs. 37·21 lakhs to 37·24 on a diminished consumption. Taken separately, licence

fees yielded Rs. 19·42 lakhs as against Rs. 20·91 lakhs and duty Rs. 17·82 as against Rs. 16·29 lakhs. The increase in the latter is due to the enhancement of duty on *ganja* and *charas* in 22 districts in which the contract supply system was introduced during the year. This system has worked smoothly and placed this head of revenue on an exact and assured basis, giving the department full control of consumption and taxation.

Opium.

202. The issue price of opium raised to Rs. 60 per seer during the year has been further enhanced to Rs. 70. Receipts from duty fell from Rs. 12·32 to Rs. 11·06 lakhs. The yield under the new system of licence fees rose from 6·67 lakhs to Rs. 6·78, to which may also be added Rs. 0·62 lakh, the fees for March, which became due for collection in the current year. Consumption fell from 34,464 to 29,398 seers and the number of shops from 992 to 855.

Tari and sendhi.

203. There was no change in the system during the year and the trade has suffered none of the vicissitudes it passed through in 1921. The income rose from Rs. 3·36 lakhs to Rs. 3·86 lakhs. The expansion of this source of revenue is attributed to the fact that many of the poorer classes of the consumers of country spirit now resort to tari as a cheap substitute for the more powerful intoxicant.

Foreign liquor.

204. The number of licences of all kinds was 1,113 as compared with 1,079 in the year previous. The increase is mainly due to a rise in the number of licences granted for the sale of denatured spirits. The income from the licence fees increased from Rs. 95,221 to Rs. 1,14,678; this increase was due to the enhanced scale of fees which took effect during the year. The increase in the income from this head has been continuous since 1920-21, and as was mentioned in the last year's report is due to changes in the method of assessment and not, as might be imagined, to an increase in the number of permanent licences. On the other hand certain licences for "on and off" and "off" consumption were withdrawn in accordance with the recommendations of the licensing boards. The income from locally-manufactured foreign liquor fell from Rs. 8·33 lakhs to Rs. 7·86 lakhs. This is attributed to enhancement of duty. There is little to suggest that the foreign liquor is displacing the country spirit; but in Agra, where the beer sales rose from 4,673 to 43,188 gallons, some of the increase was attributed to the use of beer by the former consumers of country spirits. The trade of hill breweries at Naini Tal, Chakrata and Ranikhet suffered a reverse owing to the fact that fewer troops were stationed in these places during the summer. The Naini Tal brewery has been finally closed.

Prosecutions.

205. The total number of prosecutions under the Excise Act rose from 1,116 to 1,860. Cases of illicit distillation rose from 461 to 894, and cocaine cases from 65 to 155. The increase

in the former is attributed to the high price of liquor and severer restrictions on licit supply. The mahua crop was abundant during the year, and, as usual, the districts chiefly concerned were the mahua-growing districts of Allahabad, Rae Bareli, Partabgarh and Fatehpur. Cocaine cases continued to come from the big cities of the provinces; Cawnpore, with a total of 47, heads the list. Some of the most notorious smugglers were brought to trial and convicted during the year. Cases of drunkenness further decreased from 680 to 642, which may be attributed to the same reasons which brought about the decrease in such cases last year.

Opium cases fell from 263 to 236. Out of a total seizure of 672 seers nearly 600 seers were Malwa opium.

38.—Stamps.

Receipts and charges.

206. Gross receipts under the Stamp and Court Fees Act rose from Rs. 152·93 lakhs to Rs. 162·75 lakhs. Charges increased from Rs. 3·98 to Rs. 4·26 lakhs.

Judicial stamps.

207. The gross income from judicial stamps rose from Rs. 118·24 to Rs. 127·62 lakhs. The increase occurred under all the three heads, namely, court-fee stamps, stamps for copies and plain paper.

Non-judicial stamps.

208. The income from non-judicial stamps rose from Rs. 34·69 to Rs. 35·12 lakhs, "Impressed sheets" showing the largest part of the increase.

Prosecutions.

209. Prosecutions fell from 929 to 843. Cases of insufficiently stamped or unstamped documents fell from 3,608 to 3,046, but the sum realized in duty and penalty rose from Rs. 37,488 to Rs. 40,729.

39.—Assessed Taxes.

Income-tax.

210. Income-tax is now a source of central revenue, but the province still gets a small share of the receipts under that head which is calculated in the method described in Devolution rule 15. In 1922-23 this share amounted to Rs. 31,092.

40.—Provincial Revenues.

(*For details see the Accountant-General's review on the Provincial Accounts.*)

Preliminary.

211. The effects of the Reforms and the terms of the new financial settlement with the Government of India were described in the report for the year 1921-22. There is nothing new to remark about this settlement.

212. The budget anticipated receipts to the extent of Rs. 1,436·50 lakhs and disbursements Rs. 1,543·05 lakhs, leaving a deficitof Rs. 106·55. The actual deficit, however, rose to Rs. 163·22 lakhs which was due to fall under various heads of receipts. The budget for 1922-23.

213. The receipts from all sources of revenue fell short of the budget figures by Rs. 72·59 lakhs. The main heads under which there were losses are (in lakhs of rupees) Taxes on income (2·09), Land Revenue (4·40), Excise (27·80), Stamps (32·30), Forest (31·81), Registration (1·30) and Irrigation (7·91). The causes of these decreases have been noted in departmental sections. The main heads which showed an increase were Interest (6·68), Administration of Justice (1·36), Police (3·22), Civil Works (1·10), Receipts in aid of superannuation (5·62) and Miscellaneous (2·48). The increase under interest was due to larger repayments of taqavi advances and to payment of interest by the Central Government on the balance of United Provinces loan. Under Police the increase was due to repayments by the Government of India of two years' arrears on account of the Railway Police assignment. The increase under Receipts in aid of superannuation was due to the receipt of larger sums for commutation than were expected from other Goverments. Under Miscellaneous it was due to the fact that lapsed deposits, formerly classed as an item of central revenue were reclassified as provincial revenue. Receipts.

214. On the expenditure side there was a net decrease of 15·84 lakhs, of which Rs. 10·46 lakhs related to charges against Revenue and Rs. 5·38 to charges against Capital. The savings were chiefly under Forests (15·56), Exchange on transaction with England (6·00), Irrigation Works (3·74), Education (2·89) and Superannuation (2·50). Expenditure.

The savings in charges against Capital were due to a smaller outlay on buildings and communications in the Forest Utilization Circle and on Canal Works. There were certain increases in expenditure which partially counterbalanced the savings; these are described in the departmental sections.

215. The year closed with a balance of Rs. 138·68 lakhs, which was Rs. 44·89 lakhs better than the estimate. Still, as remarked by the Accountant-General in the Appropriation Report, the accounts of the year showed that it was a year of adversity and that drastic curtailment of expenditure was absolutely necessary if no further improvement of revenue was possible. Position at the close of the year.

41.—Local Revenue.

216. The opening balance of excluded Local Funds at the beginning of the year amounted to Rs. 96·13 lakhs, the receipts to Rs. 282·63 and the expenditure to Rs. 299·39. The balance at the close of the year was Rs. 79·37 lakhs.

42.—Municipal Funds.

217. The year opened with a balance of Rs. 25·42 lakhs, the receipts amounted to Rs. 167·08 and the expenditure to Rs. 1,62·60, leaving a balance of Rs. 29·89 lakhs.

CHAPTER VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

43.—Details of census.

(See Chapter VII of the report for 1921-22.)

44.—Births and deaths.

(For details see the Annual Report of the Director of Public Health for the year ending 31st December, 1922.)

218. The total number of births registered during the year 1922 was 1,459,788 against 1,560,602 in 1921, the respective birth ratio being 32·17 and 34·39. The average birth-rate for the previous five years was 37·66. The highest birth-rate (3·72) was recorded in October and the lowest, 1·85, in June. As usual more males were born than females, the proportion being 111·48 males to every 100 females. Pilibhit, Shahjahanpur, Meerut, Aligarh and Saharanpur returned the highest birth-rate, while Rae Bareli, Dehra Dun, Ghazipur, Jaunpur and Gonda the lowest. The municipal birth-rate amounted to 41·28 as against 41·63 in 1921. The highest birth-rate (70·94) was recorded in Jalesar and the lowest (6·78) in Lakhimpur. In notified areas the birth-rate fell from 34·63 to 33·73. **Births.**

219. The total number of deaths amounted to 1,134,880 against 1,795,445 in the preceding year, the death-rate being 25·01 and 39·57 respectively. Compared with the provincial average the mortality was higher in 29 and lower in 19 districts. **Deaths.**

Farrukhabad returned the highest death-rate and Gonda the lowest. Out of 85 municipalities, 31 returned death-rate above and 54 below the provincial average (33·65) for the municipal areas. The highest death-rates were noticed in Jalesar (60·31), Brindaban (54·81) and Farrukhabad (53·71). The lowest death-rates were recorded in Lakhimpur (3·95), Ballia (12·19) and Mussoorie (12·62). In notified areas the death-rate fell from 38·60 to 25·41. The mortality in January stood at 2·51, the highest rate during the year. It fell to 1·91 in February and 1·79 in March. It rose slightly to 1·97 in April and went up to 2·40 in May. A slight fall was again noticed in June which returned a death-rate of 2·25. In July the lowest mortality (1·71) was recorded. The curve rose to 1·72 in August and

continued to rise till November, the rates for September, October and November being 1·87, 2·34 and 2·38, respectively. The year closed with a death-rate of 2·15 in December.

The rate of infantile mortality fell from 236·5 to 183·8, the decennial average being 232·3.

The largest number of deaths were recorded under the head "Fevers," and the lowest from small-pox. Out of 1,493 deaths reported as due to tetanus in certain large cities having Medical Officers of Health, 1,282 or 85·9 per cent. were verified by these officers as actually due to this cause. The Medical Officers of Health of Dehra Dun, Mussoorie, Hardwar, Aligarh, Hathras, Bareilly and Naini Tal state that no deaths from tetanus were reported during the year, while in Agra and Budaun only one death in each is reported to have occurred. In the districts the rate of infantile mortality was highest in Farrukhabad (269·86), Cawnpore (257·21) and Hamirpur (251·33). In the municipalities Cawnpore city again recorded the highest death-rates (450·87) followed by Sikandra Rao (408·02). The cause of this high infantile mortality was reported to be malaria and other fevers.

Registration of vital statistics.

220. The total number of birth and death entries tested by vaccination staff amounted to 968,622 against 1,140,048 in the preceding year. The percentage of omissions discovered in 1922 amounted to ·48 in respect of birth entries and ·25 in respect of death entries, as compared with ·63 and ·33, respectively in 1921. The local authorities tested 275,079 entries as compared with 387,340 in 1921. The result of their verification showed that 3·81 per cent. of births and 2·83 per cent. of deaths escaped registration as compared with 3·77 and 3·09 respectively, in 1921. The number of persons fined for neglect in complying with registration rules rose from 1,596 to 2,959.

Cholera.

221. The total number of deaths under cholera fell from 149,667 to 2,330 and the death-rates from 3·30 to ·05. This incidence has been the lowest during the last 52 years except in 1898 when it was the same as in 1922. The largest number of deaths from this disease were recorded in April and the smallest in February and December. Eight districts were altogether free from this disease while in seven the number of deaths registered was too small to yield a ratio per mille of the population. Of the districts contributing the largest number of deaths from cholera, Mirzapur with a rate of ·51 headed the list, followed by Unao with ·27 and Fyzabad with ·26. The working of the cholera scheme was continued satisfactorily. It has been extended to Kumaun division, and a special anti-cholera scheme on the same lines as that in force on the pilgrim route has been sanctioned for Garhwal.

Small-pox.

222. Deaths from small-pox fell from 1,439 in 1921 to 242 during 1922. The heaviest mortality was recorded in April and the

lowest in October. Eleven districts were free from the disease. The highest mortality was recorded in Allahabad and Naini Tal.

223. The number of deaths from plague fell from 24,009 in 1921 to 23,291 in 1922. The highest mortality was in the month of March and the lowest in July. The heaviest mortality was in Azamgarh, Ballia, Ghazipur and Cawnpore. Fifteen districts were altogether free from the disease while in four the number of deaths did not exceed three. The number of inoculations rose from 14,906 in 1921 to 19,250 in 1922. The number of travelling dispensaries increased from 111 to 113. Plague.

224. The number of deaths recorded as due to fever fell from 1,361,920 to 909,293. Of these 751,635 deaths were reported to be due to malaria, 19,600 to enteric fever, 1,739 to measles, 360 to relapsing fevers, 196 to kala-azar, and 135,763 to other fevers. The greatest mortality was noticed in January and the lowest in August. Among districts the highest death-rates were in Farrukhabad (33·33), Hamirpur (30·38), Budaun (29·05) and the lowest in Gonda (10·46), Dehra Dun (11·18) and Gorakhpur (12·07). In towns the rates varied from 39·30 in Brindaban to ·10 in Hapur. Fevers.

The activities of the department were continued on the Sarda canal with the result that the labourers enjoyed good health and were able to work on till the end of June. The towns of Lhaksar, Mughal Sarai, Kathgodam, Tanakpur, Kichcha and Haldwani were surveyed and reports as to the result of investigations into the prevalence and sources of malaria were submitted to the authorities concerned.

225. Deaths from dysentery and diarrhœa amounted to 10,654 as against 17,301 in the previous year. The maximum number of deaths were recorded in May. As in the previous year February returned the smallest number of deaths from this cause. Garhwal, Almora, Dehra Dun and Lucknow again returned the highest number of deaths. In Partabgarh, Kheri, Basti, Fatehpur and Muzaffarnagar the death-rate was reported to be ·01. In five towns out of 89 no death from these causes was registered and in 18 the number of deaths did not exceed 10. Of the remaining towns Hathras, Atrauli and Muttra reported the highest death-rate. Dysentery, diarrhœa, and respiratory diseases.

Diseases of the respiratory organs were responsible for 25,307 deaths as compared with 30,317 in the preceding year. The largest number of deaths was recorded in October and smallest in July. The highest mortality from these causes was reported from Hapur, Lucknow and Benares and lowest from Kheri, Basti, Jaunpur and Mainpuri. The difference in mortality from these causes in urban and rural areas is evidently due to greater accuracy in recording the causes of deaths in towns.

Injuries.

226. The number of deaths from injuries fell from 23,263 to 20,448. The number of suicides fell from 2,361 to 1,959. Accidents and wounds caused 13,650 deaths and snakes and wild beasts 4,630.

Deaths from other causes.

227. Deaths from all other causes fell from 187,529 to 143,315.

45.—Emigration and immigration.

(For details see the Annual Report on the working in the United Provinces of the Assam Labour and Emigration Act, VI of 1901, for the year ending the 30th June, 1923, and the Annual Report on Emigration from the port of Calcutta to British and Foreign colonies for the year 1922.)

Foreign emigration.

228. Twenty-nine Indian tailors were registered during the year under report for despatch to Bangkok (Siam) with the permission of Government under chapter IV of the Indian Emigration Act VII of 1922. Of these 25 were despatched to Bangkok and two did not embark owing to illness.

The number of emigrants who returned to India from various colonies was 2,509 as against 10,556 in the previous year. The ascertained average savings amounted to Rs. 368 per emigrant as against Rs. 338 last year. More than half of the total emigrants bring no savings.

Inland emigration.

229. Recruitment in accordance with the provisions of Chapter IV of the Act and Act VI of 1901, Assam Labour and Emigration Act, is reported from 20 districts, as against 18 in the previous year. The number of coolies recruited during the year under review rose to 4,717 from 969 in 1921-22 and 1,089 in 1920-21. The rise in the number of recruits is due to the activities of the larger number of Garden Sardars deputed this year by their managers, demand for labour in the Assam province being very acute both for tea estates and the coal industry. The liberal rate of wages offered by the tea industry in Assam is also said to have made the province more attractive to labourers. The increase in recruitment is also ascribed to the slackness of the trade in "shellac" and brass utensils. The largest number of recruits came from Gorakhpur and Basti; of 2,059 from Gorakhpur 1,243 were Nepalese. No case of infringement of the rules was brought to light.

Immigration.

230. No statistics are available.

46.—Medical.

Dispensaries.

231. The number of dispensaries increased from 662 to 665; eight new institutions being opened and five closed; of the latter two were local fund dispensaries, two private dispensaries and

one a railway dispensary; of the former, three were State dispensaries, one local fund dispensary, and four private non-aided dispensaries. The number of patients treated was 5,525,298; 5,441,506 outdoor, and 83,792 indoor. The variations compared with the figures for the previous year do not call for any comment. Two new travelling dispensaries were opened during the year, one in Rae Bareli and the other in Muzaffarnagar. The total number of patients treated at all the travelling dispensaries fell from 920,430 to 770,484.

232. The total income of hospitals and dispensaries rose from 25·51 lakhs to 28·11 lakhs and the expenditure from 24·46 to 26·46. Local fund contributions rose from 12·56 lakhs to 14·22 lakhs and municipal contributions from 1·15 to 1·20. Expenditure on diet fell from Rs. 1,67,435 to Rs. 1,41,353. The invested capital stood at Rs. 17,70,813 as against Rs. 16,83,213. Financial.

233. The number of medical students at the King George Medical College, Lucknow, increased from 174 to 201, of whom 170 were living in the attached hostels. Twenty-seven students appeared for the M. B., B. S. examinations; of these, 19 were successful. In the Diploma of Public Health examination seven out of 10 were successful. The college was visited by Dr. Norman Walker of the General Medical Council of Britain, who reported the college to be an admirable institution in every respect, save that of midwifery. The number of male students at Agra Medical School fell from 614 to 528. The number of students who passed out was 99 as against 192 in 1921. In the Women's school the number on the roll went up to 65 again. The number of students who appeared for the final qualifying examination was 10; out of these, five were successful. The designations of assistant surgeons and sub-assistant surgeons were changed to P. M. S. O. and P. S. M. S. O. and the revised scale of pay was given effect to during the year. Post-graduate classes were substituted for the grade examinations of P. M. S. officers—a change which has been admitted to be of real value. The P. S. M. S. officers were given the prospects of getting into P. M. S., the number of posts thrown open to them being one per cent. of their cadre. This has removed a long-felt grievance. General.

47.—Sanitation.

234. In 1921-22, municipal boards spent, on an average, 50 per cent. of their income under the head of water-supplies, drainage, and conservancy as compared with 39 per cent in 1920-21. The amount of expenditure under the above heads and the total income being respectively, Rs. 63,02,956 and Rs. 1,26,56,427 in 1921-22 as compared with Rs. 43,74,783 and Rs. 1,12,18,446 in the year 1920-21. The total amount spent on sanitary works under the supervision of the Superintending Engineer, Public Health department, amounted to Rs. 48,75,546. The Lucknow Municipalities.

water-supply re-organization scheme is in progress. The generating and pumping station foundations were completed in September and October, 1922, and the superstructure was well in hand in March, 1923. The work is now in the charge of municipal board. Naini Tal Hydro-Electric water-supply scheme was completed during the summer and public supply started in August, 1922.

The report of the Superintending Engineer, Public Health department, again contains severe criticism against the management of water-works by the municipal boards. The losses on water-supply generally have been greater than in the former years. The chief reason for this has been the failure of the boards to employ a technical staff possessing the necessary qualifications and experience. The shortage of water has been chronic. Meters have been allowed to remain out of order for years and inspection reports of officers have been sometimes suppressed. Satisfactory arrangements for the supply of good coal have yet to be made. The boards still prefer over-taxing water-supplies to enhancement of water rates which have proved totally inadequate. This state of things is causing military authorities, railways, and other concerns to seek independent sources of supply.

Fairs.

235. All the important fairs and religious gatherings held in the United Provinces during 1922, passed off without the occurrence of any infectious disease. The medical and sanitary arrangements of the Magh Mela, Allahabad, the Mahabarani, the Dikhauti, and Somwati Amawasya fairs at Hardwar, the Dadri fair at Ballia, the Sawan Jhula and Ram Naumi fairs at Ajodhya, the Tigri fair at Moradabad, the Garhmuktesar fair at Meerut, and the Shahkumber Devi fair in the Saharanpur district were supervised by the Assistant Director of Public Health.

Board of Public Health.

236. The Board of Public Health sanctioned grants amounting to Rs. 13,54,134. Of this sum, Rs. 4,64,993 were devoted to water-supply schemes, Rs. 3,83,693 to drainage and sewerage projects, Rs. 1,02,610 to rural sanitation, and Rs. 3,02,838 to sanitary objects of a general nature. A grant of one lakh was made to the Sadabart fund towards the construction of a road to Badrinath. Of the schemes discussed by the Board during the year projects for various works, the estimated cost of which aggregated Rs. 54,03,274, were administratively approved.

48.—Vaccination.

(For details see the Triennial Report on Vaccination for the years 1920-21, 1921-22, *and* 1922-23.*)*

Establishment and charges.

237. The number of assistant superintendents remained the same but the number of vaccinators fell to 909; expenditure fell

from Rs. 4,66,363 to Rs. 4,62,830. The increase compared with the average in the preceding triennium was due mainly to increase in establishment charges and the expenditure on the Government Bovine Lymph dépôt.

Vaccination.

238. The number of vaccination operations performed during the year rose from 1,219,989 to 1,238,409. Of these, 1,175,212 were primary and 63,197 re-vaccinations. The number and percentage of successful primary operations were 1,119,849 and 96·44 respectively as against 1,106,079 and 96·82 in the previous year. In the case of re-vaccinations they were 40,027 and 69·89 compared with 41,122 and 70·23 in the previous year. The figures are improving, but the causes mentioned last year have still prevented the work from reaching the figures of the previous triennium. The average cost per successful operation fell from 5 annas 2 pies to 4 annas 10 pies.

Lymph.

239. The work at the Patwa Dangar Lymph dépôt was again carried on successfully. The contractor was irregular in supplying calves which sometimes caused delay and inconvenience. The quantity of lymph issued was 331,668 in tubes and 69,436 grammes in bulk as against 135,448 in tubes and 87,093 grammes in bulk last year. The income rose from Rs. 39,169 to Rs. 41,354, and expenditure from Rs. 32,259 to Rs. 35,138. The increase in the expenditure was due to the purchase of new plates for electric battery. Owing to sufficiency of stock the manufacture of lymph during the current year will be limited and a considerable saving may be expected.

The sale of lymph to usual purchasers increased by about Rs. 2,000, chiefly on account of larger orders from District Boards.

CHAPTER VII.—INSTRUCTION.

49.—General System of Public Instruction.

(See the report for the year 1921-22.*)*

50.—Education.

(For details see the General Report on Public Instruction for the year ending the 31*st March,* 1923.*)*

General.

240. The disturbing effect of the non-co-operation movement can now be said to have practically disappeared. Most of the so-called national schools which sprang up in the earlier stages of the movement have disappeared; the few that remain have little chance of success.

In consequence of the re-constitution of the Allahabad University as a teaching university of the unitary and residential type, the duty of regulating and supervising the system of High School and Intermediate Education in the United Provinces was transferred to the Board of High School and Intermediate Education constituted under the United Provinces Intermediate Education Act of 1921 which came into force on the 1st April, 1922. This board has not only assumed the functions of the Allahabad University so far as Intermediate education is concerned, but has also taken the place of the central board for the School-leaving Certificate examination, and the High School examination to be conducted by it is to take the place of the Matriculation examination of the Allahabad University and the School-leaving Certificate examination of the department of Public Instruction. The Board possess power of granting recognition to high schools and intermediate colleges, of prescribing courses for the middle section, the high section and the intermediate classes of English schools and of conducting examinations and awarding certificates and diplomas. The Director of Public Instruction is the *ex-officio* Chairman of the Board and its constitution provides for a considerable non-official element.

Another important development is the introduction of compulsory education in municipalities. The Government offer of meeting two-thirds of the extra cost involved in introducing compulsory education was accepted by 32 municipalities but

the scheme was actually in force in only eight of them. The enterprising boards are Cawnpore, Bareilly, Moradabad, Balrampur (Gonda), Bulandshahr, Lakhimpur, Ghazipur, and Kashipur. The reports so far received are encouraging, but it is yet too early to pronounce on the success of the scheme. The difficulty is to make full provision in the matter of staff and accommodation.

Number of institutions and scholars.

241. The total number of educational institutions increased from 21,566 to 21,752 and the number of scholars from 1,029,565 to 1,080,951.

Expenditure.

242. The total expenditure from all sources fell from Rs. 298·13 lakhs to Rs 291·44 lakhs. Expenditure from provincial revenues, however, rose from 156·14 to 165·87 lakhs.

University education, Allahabad.

243. The intended changes in the Allahabad University were described in the report for last year. The University commenced work under the new scheme of re-organization in July, 1922.

The Muir Central College, with its buildings and equipment, was handed over to the Allahabad University, the members of its staff being placed on deputation, and the University absorbed the degree and post-graduate classes of the Ewing Christian College and the Kayastha Pathshala College. The Training College, Allahabad, while retaining its separate identity has been recognized as the Training department of the University.

An important aim of the Teaching University is to secure for every student regularly, in addition to his lectures, a proportional amount of supplementary instruction. Efforts are being made in every department to develop this feature, though the staff is still short in some of the departments and tutorial instruction is insufficient in subjects in which the number of students is considerable.

The results of the University examinations are given below :—

Name of examination.	Number appeared.	Number passed.
Matriculation	497	174
Intermediate	1,265	660
B. A.	674	325
M. A. Final	105	74
M. A. Previous	154	86
M. Sc. Final	21	17
M. Sc. Previous	40	27
B. Sc.	129	89
LL. B. Final	283	240
LL. B. Previous	389	180
L. T	70	65
Commercial Diploma	106	52

Benares

244. The University maintains four colleges, the Central Hindu College, the College for Teachers, the College of Oriental Learning, and the Engineering College.

The following statement shows the result of the various examinations conducted by the University :—

Name of examination.	Number appeared.	Number passed.
Admission	225	115
Intermediate	378	201
B.A.	155	91
B, Sc.	34	13
M.A.	17	17
M. Sc.	10	10
L. T.	55	51
Praveshika	33	14
Madhyama (Prachyavidya Vibhag)	31	17
Ditto (Dharmavigyan Vibhag) ...	3	2
Shastrin...	13	9
Smritiratna	1	1
I. Sc. (Engineering) Part I	88	55
I. Sc. Ditto do. II	49	31
B. Sc. Ditto do. I	18	11
B. Sc. Ditto do. II (Mechanical branch)...	11	10
B. Sc. (Engineering) do. II (Electrical branch) ...	4	4

Aligarh.

245. The Aligarh Muslim University has also four institutions, namely the University Intermediate College, University School, and the Branch School. The University held its own examinations and the results were as follows :—

Name of examination.	Number appeared.	Number passed.
M.Sc.	1	1
M.A.	31	24
LL. B. Previous	44	36
B. A.	161	138
B. Sc.	11	10
Intermediate examination	302	239
Matriculation	225	144

Lucknow.

246. The Canning College, with all its property and liabilities has been merged in the University of Lucknow. The staff was strengthened by the addition of three professors, eight readers, and 20 lecturers. An important departure was the appointment of lecturers in Hindi and Urdu for the purpose of encouraging the study of the Vernacular languages of the province. University Extension Lectures are a special feature of the

University work. The results of the examinations of 1922 were as follows :—

Name of examination.	Number appeared.	Number passed.
M. A. Previous	47	34
M. A. Final	25	23
M. Sc. Previous	15	11
M. Sc. Final	7	7
B. A.	106	73
B. Sc.	35	21
LL. B. Previous	107	59
LL. B. Final	27	27
M. B., B. S.	35	23
D. P. H. Previous	1	1
Bachelor of Commerce Previous	27	21
Ditto Final	10	9
Ditto Entrance	20	15

Secondary education.

247. The number of secondary schools including Intermediate Colleges, English High and Middle schools and Vernacular Middle schools was 792 as against 801 in the previous year. The decrease took place in the Middle schools. The total enrolment has, however, increased by 6,012 to 99,171 and the expenditure by Rs. 4,72,556 to Rs. 55,89,934.

The total number of educational institutions maintaining intermediate classes amounted to 23 with a total enrolment of 2,514 students.

The expenditure on the eight Government Intermediate Colleges amounted to Rs. 4,78,018 of which Rs. 3,84,225 or 80·4 per cent. was met from provincial revenues and the rest from fees and other sources. The Intermediate Colleges have been hampered by inadequate equipment and accommodation, nonetheless they have made a promising start. The total number of English High and Middle schools for Indian boys decreased from 242 to 217. The decrease in High schools was nominal and is accounted for by the absorption of some of them in the Intermediate Colleges. The number of scholars in High schools rose from 43,900 to 45,812, but in the Middle schools it decreased from 6,129 to 6,071, the net result being an increase of 1,854 in the total enrolment in English schools. The total expenditure on English High and Middle schools for Indian boys decreased from Rs. 39·16 to Rs. 34·83 lakhs. The decrease is due to the fact that expenditure on the primary middle and high sections of Intermediate Colleges is now shown against these colleges. The total number of students who appeared at Matriculation examination was 947, of whom 433 passed.

Five thousand six hundred and thirteen candidates appeared at the School-leaving Certificate examination of whom 2,609

passed. The percentage of passes comes to 46·5 as against 49·6 in the previous year.

The number of Vernacular Middle schools decreased from 556 to 552. Enrolment, however, increased by 1,700 to 44,774. Expenditure rose from 12 lakhs to 12·64 lakhs.

Financial stringency has again hampered building schemes both in Government and non-Government institutions. Some progress has, however, been made. The new building of the Intermediate College at Fyzabad was completed and new blocks of class rooms were built at Gonda and Bijnor and new hostels constructed at Husainabad (Lucknow), Amroha, Mirzapur, and Fyzabad. The progress of work at private schools has not been unsatisfactory.

Primary education.

248. The number of schools increased from 15,491 to 15,903, the enrolment from 787,507 to 832,088 and the expenditure from Rs. 62·65 lakhs to Rs. 65·05 lakhs. Of the total increase of Rs. 2,40,228, provincial revenue contributed Rs. 1,69,879 and district boards Rs. 69,934. The employment of trained teachers is on the increase, the figures for the year 1922-23 being 19,146 as against 16,915 in the previous year.

Training and supply of teachers.

249. The number of Training Colleges remained the same as last year. The new Normal school at Jhansi has made a good beginning. It is generally agreed that the standard of students admitted for training is rising. The teaching of English as alternative subject has been introduced in some of the Model schools attached to the Normal schools and is proving an attraction. The number of training classes fell from 432 to 303. The main cause of decrease is that the supply of trained teachers in some districts has overtaken the demand. The number of women candidates for training shows an encouraging tendency to increase. For the higher stages it is still small but for the Vernacular Teachers' Certificate examination candidates are as numerous as the training classes can accommodate. A third Normal school was opened at Allahabad.

Technical education.

250. The enrolment at the Technological Institute at Cawnpore increased by 9. The staff was strengthened by the appointment of an oil expert, leather chemist and a workshop superintendent A good deal of important research work was done during the year. Some of the investigations were undertaken at the requests of private firms.

The Technical school at Lucknow suffered in enrolment, chiefly on account of abolition of the motor drivers' class.

The admissions to the Technical school at Gorakhpur during the year 1922-23 were the highest on record and included two students of wealthy families. Their object was to get training for businesses which they wished to start. Another noticeable

feature is the larger proportion of the students who have passed the Matriculation and School leaving Certificate examinations.

The School of Arts and Crafts, Lucknow, did not progress much during the year 1922-23 owing to internal troubles. The management of the Emporium was the subject of enquiry by a Special Officer.

The Leather Working Schools at Cawnpore and Meerut are doing useful work and are able to turn out fully trained young men.

The Carpentry School at Allahabad has now 150 students on the roll. The progress made by this school has exceeded the most sanguine expectations.

The School of Dyeing and Printing, Cawnpore, has also passed out students who have been considered to be well qualified.

The Technical School in Jhansi suffered in enrolment during the year. The proportion of Indians which was comparatively small in the beginning has considerably increased.

The Weaving Schools remained the same as before with nothing special to report about them.

The education of girls.

251. The number of public institutions for Indian girls has increased from 1,490 to 1,513 and that of private institutions has decreased from 151 to 136; thus there has been a net increase of eight. Among public institutions High Schools including Intermediate classes have increased by four; English Middle schools by one, Vernacular Middle schools by six, primary schools by 11, and Special schools by two, while the number of training schools has decreased by one. The total enrolment of public institutions has increased from 57,721 to 60,436, while that of private institutions has decreased from 2,990 to 2,771, there being a net increase of 2,496. The total expenditure on educational institutions for Indian girls shows an increase of Rs. 39,489 from Rs. 11,01,082 to Rs. 11,40,571. The Isabella Thoburn College, Lucknow, is now closely associated with the Lucknow University and is planning to erect new buildings to house the University classes as well as the Intermediate College, assigning its present buildings to the Middle school. Two girls appeared for the M.A., previous examination and both passed while ten appeared in the B.A. examination and nine passed. These results give some indication of the good work that is being done in this college. The girls have organized games or drill three times a week and the health of the pupils is looked after by a trained woman doctor. In addition to the ordinary curriculum, the college has music and domestic science departments in charge of American teachers. The number of Intermediate classes is four attached to the Isabella Thoburn College, Lucknow, the Crosthwaite Girls' High School, Allahabad, the

Theosophical College, Benares, and the Muslim Girls' High School, Lucknow. The number of secondary schools including the four intermediate classes has risen from 39 to 42, and the total enrolment from 4,824 to 5,569. The number of primary schools for girls has increased by 11 to 1,348 and enrolment has gone up by 1,140 to 46,195. Thirty-three thousand nine hundred and thirty-nine girls are reading in boys' schools, as against 33,164 last year. Buildings for girls' primary schools are not satisfactory.

An increased enrolment of 2,496 pupils in one year is not unsatisfactory, but progress in girls' education is slow. The main difficulties are (1) the lack of interest of the public, (2) the absence of qualified and suitable mistresses, and (3) lack of funds.

Schools for Europeans.

252. The only real change in the number of institutions is the discontinuance of college classes at All Saints' Diocesan College and Woodstock College for girls. There is an apparent decrease of seven institutions from 66 to 59, but this is due simply to re-classification of special and technical schools; 188 candidates were presented for the Senior Cambridge or School Certificate Examination and 285 for that of Junior Cambridge; out of the former 112 and out of the latter 187 passed. The results of the hill schools are, as a rule, far better than those of schools in the plains. Work in the plains' schools is seriously affected by the long break for the summer vacation which comes in the middle of the year, while the hill schools work without a break from March to December and the examination takes place in December at the end of the school year. The Code of Regulations for European Schools has been revised.

Muhammadan education.

253. Expenditure on Islamia schools and maktabs rose by Rs. 40,741 to Rs. 3,02,464. Enrolment increased from 44,463 to 48,955. Of the total increase, 1,130 was in schools, and 3,362 in maktabs. The total number of Muhammadan boys reading in all kinds of vernacular schools rose from 139,461 to 142,843.

Education of the depressed classes.

254. During the year Government gave to district boards further grants from provincial revenues to the extent of Rs. 22,491 per annum for the encouragement of education among the depressed classes and now contribute to the district boards for this purpose Rs. 1,10,231 per annum. Government also make recurring grants amounting to Rs. 5,000 per annum to certain non-official bodies which maintain altogether 35 schools for the depressed classes. The number of schools for the depressed classes has risen from 582 to 622 and the number of scholars reading in them from 14,610 to 16,622. All divisions and practically all districts report good progress. Difficulties in the way of further progress are the lack of teachers, want of accommodation and equipment, and apathy on the part of conservatives among the higher castes.

51.—Literature and the Press.

Literary publications.

255. The number of publications increased from 2,062 to 2,874. The increase in the output was shared by all the principal languages except Persian, and was distributed as below:—

Hindi	...	...	402
Urdu	...	...	217
English	...	...	43
Sanskrit	...	...	19
Polyglot	...	...	116

The number of Persian books fell from 19 to 10. If classified according to subject-matter, the increase was general except in works on arts and politics. Works of poetry increased from 707 to 1,118, works of fiction from 210 to 265, works on language from 189 to 248, and miscellaneous works from 211 to 315. Works on art declined from 13 to 7, and those on politics from 146 to 144. In poetry the chief works were fresh editions or translations of classical authors, the period dealt with going as far back as the time of Khusru. Works on popular poets like Tulsi Das, Sur Das, and Ghalib are constantly published and are always popular. Anthologies compiled by well-known writers are also growing in popularity.

Works of fiction have not displayed much literary talent They are chiefly unreal love stories with little relation to the actualities of life in the East. Historical novels devoted more care than usual to giving an accurate picture of the manners and customs of the times with which they deal. Under language come dictionaries, grammars and a few works giving selections from standard authors.

Biography is again a large class and its subjects were more varied than usual, ranging from Nausherwan the Just to McSwinny the Irishman, from Garibaldi to Max Muller.

Under the heading of religion is classed a large number of books dealing with the *Khilafat*, but these should rather be treated as political pamphlets.

Works on Hindu religion were varied, a good many being translations of ancient Sanskrit books. Among these may be mentioned Dr. Ganganatha Jha's translation of the Manu Smriti.

In history, leaving aside school text-books, the most important publication was a work on the antiquity of the Aryan race. The ingenious author, Mr. Bhagwan Das Pathak, fixes B. C. 86,469 as the date of the deluge and B. C. 23,836 as the date of the Aryan migration. Works on foreign countries included a history of England, a history of the Roman Empire and an account of the Russian revolution. The History department of the Allahabad University issued its well-known journal

on Indian history. In law there were three new books by Mr. Agarwala and one by his son. In medicine most of the publications dealt with the fashionable subject of sexual science. Among the more serious contributions may be mentioned a new edition of *Madana Vinoda*, brought out by Pandit Trimbak Sastri.

In drama there was a large number of original plays as well as translations and adaptations. Several of them were taken from the Ramayana or other classical stories. One depicted the life story of Christ as given in the Bible and another described the good and evil sides of modern education.

In scientific literature activity is chiefly confined to Allahabad University. The Allahabad Journal of Economics continues to be the most prominent publication of the kind. Another contribution to the science was Professor Jevons' *Future of Exchange*.

Political literature chiefly dealt with the *Khilafat* and *Swaraj* movements. Very little originality was shown. The names of some of the *Khilafat* publications (e.g. *Faryad-i-Kaba, Madina-ki-pukar*) were intended to indicate the great distress among the Muslims at the injury done to their religion and their readiness to undergo suffering. Some of them exhorted the police and the military to give up Government service. Mr. Gandhi was extolled as the deliverer of the country and his message relating to *khaddar* and *charkha* was recommended for strict observance. The success of the Turks was made the subject of praise and congratulation in several publications. Works on *Swaraj* were not as numerous as those on the *Khilafat*; but the tone was much the same. The Government action in repressing lawlessness was called 'Reading Shahi' and a book containing some open letters to Lord Reading was published at Cawnpore. The present economic condition of India, the destruction of her industries by the British, the exploitation of Indians by foreigners who came in as traders and subsequently made them their slaves were forcibly, if inaccurately, depicted in several *swaraj* publications. The loyalists were not idle. Numerous publications were issued by them setting forth the mischievous consequences of non-co-operation, while some argued that the *Khilafat* movement has no sanction in Islam.

Neither the non-co-operation nor anti-non-co-operation publications had any literary merit, but it must be admitted with sorrow that while the latter were purchased only by *Aman Sabhas* the former had large sales, passing through several editions.

Indian Press.

256. The total number of newspapers and periodicals printed during the year was 473 as compared with 525 in the previous

year. Of these, 87 were in English, 215 in Urdu, and 171 in Hindi. Lucknow contributed 99 papers, Allahabad 91, Agra, 40, Benares 34, Cawnpore 31, Meerut 29, Moradabad 26, Bijnor 21, and Aligarh 17. Eight English, 4 Urdu, and 10 Hindi papers had a circulation of more than 2,000 copies, but in only one case did the circulation reach 14,000.

257. There was no change for the better in the general tone of the press. Indeed the repeal of the Press Act, early in April, was marked by a distinct deterioration in the tone of the extremist papers which freely indulged in indiscriminate vituperation. The *Independent*, whose temporary cessation had a salutary effect on the entire extremist press, came into existence again and adopted a distinctly anti-British tone. The *Leader* of Allahabad continued to be the most influential opponent of the non-co-operation movement and strongly criticised the speeches and writings of its leaders. It has been the best exponent of Liberal policy and where any Government act or measure has gone against that policy its criticisms have been as unsparing as those in any extremist paper. There was, however, nothing to complain of with regard to its tone. The *Indian Daily Telegraph* usually supported the Congress. Its attacks on the Government and moderate leaders, more especially the latter, have been far from dignified. The *Vartman* of Cawnpore and the *Medina* of Bijnor were consistently and strongly anti-Government and the former overtly imparted a communistic tinge to its tone. The *Vikram* and the *Pratap* of Cawnpore and the *Al Khalil* and *Nejat* of Bijnor were very bitter in their attacks on Government and openly advocated the need for direct action. The *Aj* of Benares and the *Hamdam* of Lucknow were among the very few vernacular papers which although strongly critical of Government measures maintained a restrained and dignified tone. On the other hand, among Hindi papers the *Anand*, the *Dayanshakti*, and the *Surya*, and among Urdu papers the *Oudh Akhbar*, the *Mashriq*, the *Zulqarnain* and the *Rozana Akhbar* strongly supported the Government and defended its actions. Tone and policy.

The recommendation of the "Civil Disobedience Enquiry Committee" regarding entry into the Council was the subject of prolonged controversy. The extremist papers held that it was opposed to the principle of non-co-operation and amounted to a betrayal of Mr. Gandhi but the uncompromising attitude of men like Mr. C. R. Das and Pandit Moti Lal Nehru weakened the opposition against it. The more advanced wing of the nationalists was however still averse to the suggestion, and urged the need of a speedy inauguration of civil disobedience and a non-violent revolution as the only means of winning *swaraj*.

The proceedings of the Lausanne Conference were followed with close attention and the news of an early conclusion of peace between the Allies and Turkey was received with a distinct

feeling of relief. The *Leader* observed that with a supreme effort Turkey had thrown off the shackles of generations and stood unfettered to-day. Although the Muslim Press was particularly happy over the Turkish peace, which it regarded as the success of the *Khilafat*, yet it urged that the *Khilafat* agitation could not be given up until the *Jaziral-ul-Arab* was liberated from non-Muslim control. The Anglo-Iraq Treaty was received unfavourably by the Muslim Press. The *Mansur* called the treaty the "Charter of slavery of Iraq."

The presidential speech at the Gaya Congress was generally applauded by the extremists, but the moderate papers held that it had not given the right lead to the country. Opinion was divided even among the extremist papers regarding the resolutions of the Congress, only the more radical among them approved of the boycott of Councils, the repudiation of debts contracted by Governments and preparations for civil di-obedience. The split in the Congress camp was generally deplored.

The Presidential speech and the resolutions of the All-India Christian Conference were greatly appreciated and were regarded as a welcome sign of awakening among Indian Christians.

The riots between the Hindus and the Musalmans in Multan Amritsar, and other places absorbed the attention of the press for a long time. The hollowness of the Hindu-Muslim unity was admitted, and Hindi papers pointed out that whenever there were Hindu-Muslim riots, the Hindus, as the less organized party, were invariably the sufferers. Attention was called to the religious zeal, self-sacrifice, and power of organization displayed by Muhammadans in connection with the *Khilafat* and by the Sikhs in connection with the Akali agitation, and Hindus were asked to remember that so long as they remained weak they could not expect the friendship of Muhammadans; for there could be no friendship between the strong and the weak. On these grounds the *shuddhi* and *sangathan* movements started for the organization of Hindus were strongly supported, but this incensed the Muslim papers, whose bitter comments tended to widen further the gulf between the two communities.

The vernacular press was loud in its praise of His Excellency the Governor for having withdrawn the Criminal Law Amendment Act, and the release of the political prisoners convicted under it was generally received with enthusiasm by all sections of the Indian press, although some of the extremist papers thought that their release was nothing more than an act of bare justice for which the Government did not deserve any thanks.

The press devoted considerable space to the municipal elections, and the extremist papers were jubilant over the results. Even the *Leader* admitted that the Congress party had secured a

strong hold on the urban areas and that it would be difficult for the moderate candidates to contest successfully against the pro-Council party the urban seats in the local Council.

Official evidence before the Arms Rules Committee was strongly criticised by all sections of the press. The refusal of the Government to agree to an unrestricted issue of licences was condemned as deliberately calculated to impair the nation's capacity for self-defence and consequently for self-government.

With the exception of a few Urdu papers, the press generally supported the District Boards Bill. The extremist press admitted that the Bill would improve the position of the district boards, but criticised the provisions of the Bill as falling far short of the requirements of a free and civilized country. The Muslim papers resented the attitude taken up by the Hindu members with regard to Muslim representation.

All sections of the Indian press were united in resenting the treatment of Indians in the Colonies. The moderate papers thought that much good would result from Mr. Srinivas Sastri's dominion tour, but the extremist papers regarded it as a waste of public money. Mr. Sastri was vehemently criticised by them for his professions of love for the British Empire, and they were denounced as signs of a slave mentality. The resolution of the Imperial Conference about the equality of the status of Indians in the Dominions was represented as an attempt to appease the Indians by lip-sympathy. The view was reiterated that nothing short of self-government could secure an equitable and honourable treatment of Indians in the Colonies.

52. Literary Societies.

(See pages 172 *and* 173 *of the report for the year* 1921-22.*)*

53.—Arts and Sciences.

(*For details see the annual report on the working of the Lucknow Provincial Museum for the year ending the* 31*st March*, 1923.)

253. The number of accessions to the Lucknow Provincial Museum numbered 372. They were classed as below :—

Archæology	...	...	26
Numismatics	...	...	130
Natural history	...	...	32
Ethnography	...	...	25
Picture Gallery	...	...	28
Library	...	...	131

The finest among the sculptures is a marble slab from Amaravati in the Kistna district of Madras presidency, divided into two panels, the worship of the wheel being depicted in the upper panel and that of the Bodhi tree in the lower. Amongst other acquisitions were three slabs bearing short inscriptions in Brahmi

script discovered in the Allahabad district, and a fragmentary inscription in black schist assigned to the Pathan period which was presented to the Museum by Mr. R. Burn, C.S.I., I.C.S. Among old documents may be mentioned two farmans, one dated 1079 Hijri and the other 1138 Hijri. The numismatic acquisitions were seven gold, 71 silver, and 52 billon or copper coins. The coins mostly belong to the Mughal period; but one gold coin was of the time of Shri Kritavirya and one silver coin a hemidrachm of Archebios. In the Natural History department the most important acquisition of the year was a specimen of the Baikal Teal *Nettium formosum*), a Chinese duck which is extremely rare in India.

The picture gallery was enriched by a generous gift of 23 Daniell water colours from the Marquis Curzon of Kedleston representing views of important places and ancient buildings in Northern India. The additions to the Ethnographic court were again of varied interest. A set of 33 gramophone records of languages and dialects spoken in the Himalayan tracts and the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh was generously presented by the Local Government. Amongst the accessions to the library were six valuable Urdu and Persian manuscripts presented by Mr. Yusuf Husain Khan, Barrister-at-Law, Lucknow. Three of these are in a fair state of preservation and possess great historical interest, one throwing a flood of light on the history of Oudh and giving the date of the erection of certain buildings in Lucknow.

The number of visitors rose to 108,295 as compared with 103,698 in the previous year. The visitors included 640 *pardanashin* ladies, which again is an improvement over the last year's figure. The receipts fell from Rs 257 to Rs. 199 and the expenditure from Rs. 17,643 to Rs. 16,238

CHAPTER VIII.—ARCHÆOLOGY.

54.—Archæology.

259. Since the introduction of the Reforms the archæological monuments in these provinces have been divided between the Central and Provincial Governments. As the monuments in charge of the Provincial Government are of a very minor order, the Public Works department will not issue any separate report about them. During the year no important works were carried out.

CHAPTER IX.—MISCELLANEOUS.

55.—Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction.

(*For details see the General Administration Report for the year* 1921-1922).

56.—Ecclesiastical.

260. The year was uneventful.

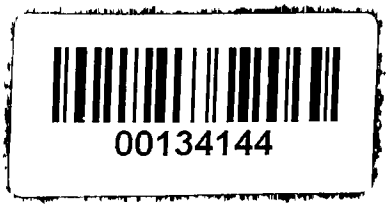
57.—Stationery.

261. The total value of stationery supplied during the year was 6·93 lakhs, as against Rs. 8·53 lakhs in the year previous. The value of the stationery supplied to the Government Presses fell from Rs. 6·02 lakhs to 4·14 lakhs.

58.—General Miscellaneous.

Government Press.

262. The value of printing executed for the provinces amounted to Rs. 9,31,260 as against Rs. 12,82,856 in the previous year. The decrease of Rs. 3,51,596 was due to the fall in the price of paper and to a reduction in printing orders by almost all the departments under Government. The receipts for the year fell short of the estimate by Rs. 58,701, but, compared with the actuals of the previous year, there was an increase of Rs. 4,142. The decrease compared with the estimates was due to the abolition of the *United Provinces Journal*. The expenditure for the year amounted to Rs. 6,13,333, showing a saving of Rs. 40,447 on the budget grant and a decrease of Rs. 1,17,215 as compared with the figures of the previous year. The increase in the number of books received for registration under the Copyright Act continued, the number of books received being 2,570 as against 2,461 in the preceding year. Of these, 1,762 were original works and the remaining reprints. Benares, as usual, headed the list with 816 publications, followed by Allahabad with 390, Lucknow 379, Agra 177, Cawnpore 141, Aligarh 117, Moradabad 113, and Budaun 72. The branch presses at Lucknow and Naini Tal were fully employed, the Lucknow branch being again specially busy during the Council sessions.



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